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United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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Abbreviations

AAFF	UK Armed Forces
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CD	Crown Dependency[1]
CD2014	Core Document 2014 of the United Kingdom, British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies[2]
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEDAW-OP	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRC-OP-AC	Optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict
CRC-OP-SC	Optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CRPD-OP	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
EA 2010	Equality Act 2010
ECHR	Council of Europe European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
ECtHR	Council of Europe European Court of Human Rights
EU	European Union
HRA	Human Rights Act 1998
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP2	Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
ILO	International Labour Organization
Istanbul Convention	Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

NHRIs	National Human Rights Institutions (in the UK they are the: Equality and Human Rights Commission; Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission; Scottish Human Rights Commission)
NHS	National Health Service
NIE	Northern Ireland Executive
OPCAT	Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OT	British Overseas Territory[3]
SG	Scottish Government
SIA	Security and Intelligence Agencies (Security Service, Secret Intelligence Service, UK Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ))
UK	United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales)
UKG	UK Government
UN	United Nations
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
VAWG	Violence against women and girls
WG	Welsh Government

I. Introduction

1. The UK welcomes the 3rd UPR of its human rights record. The UPR is a constructive process for States to learn from and to help each other in protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms. The UK remains fully committed to the UPR and to promoting human rights internationally.

2. On 23 June 2016, the people of the UK voted to leave the EU. However, the UK will remain a close friend, ally and trading partner of its European neighbours; an outward-looking nation, open for business, committed to peace and security, and a leading supporter of the international rules-based system. Recalling the celebrations in 2015 for the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta, the UK is committed to maintaining its strong global role in relation to human rights and continues to comply with its international human rights obligations. The UK will also take action to tackle abuses of these rights. As Prime Minister Theresa May made clear in her speech to the UN General Assembly on 20 September 2016, this includes working together with the UN to adapt a global response to mass migration and reducing the threat from international terrorism, stamping out modern slavery, championing the rights of women and girls and abhorring sexual violence in conflict.

3. The UKG remains committed to reforming the domestic human rights framework. We will consider further the Bill of Rights once we know the arrangements for the EU exit and consult fully on our proposals in the full knowledge of the new constitutional landscape that will create.

II. Methodology and consultation process

4. This report complements the periodic reports[4] submitted by the UK since 2012, and provides a snapshot of the key developments since the 2012 UPR and the 2014 Mid Term Report[5]. The report includes contributions from UKG departments, the Devolved Administrations, the OTs (via the Foreign & Commonwealth Office) and the CDs. A separate annex lists the current UK position in respect of the UPR recommendations from 2012 using a simplified classification of either "supported" or "noted" for each recommendation.

5. In preparing this report, the UKG and the Devolved Administrations consulted various civil society organisations and the NHRIs. The consultation process was largely based on the following stakeholder events: in London on 6 October 2016, hosted by the UKG; in Cardiff on 21 October 2016, hosted by the WG; in Glasgow on 27 October 2016, hosted by the SG. The NIE held a series of bilateral meetings with various organisations in the course of October 2016. The topics addressed in this report largely reflect the outcome of the engagement process.

III. General framework for the protection and promotion of human rights and for combating discrimination

A. Acceptance of international human rights norms

6. The UK remains party to seven[6] UN human rights treaties. It also continues to fulfil its obligations under the Optional Protocols that it has ratified[7]. The UKG is also in the process of reviewing its reservations in the UN treaties in respect of the OTs; the

reservations placed in respect of the UK and the CDs will be reviewed during the upcoming periodic reporting process under each treaty[8].

7. The UKG has considered its position on accepting the right of individual petition to the UN beyond the CEDAW-OP and CRPD-OP[9], and concluded that the benefits of the communication procedure remain unclear. The UN process is not an appeal mechanism, it cannot reverse decisions of the domestic courts, and it cannot result in an enforceable award of compensation for the applicant. The UK is party to the ECHR, thus people in the UK already have access to the application process to the ECtHR[10]. The ECtHR's 2015 Analysis of Statistics reports that at the end of 2015 there were 64,834 applications under consideration: only 256 of these (approximately 0.4%) were applications against the UK. At the end of 2015, the UK was responsible for only 19 (0.2%) out of a total 10,652 pending ECtHR judgments before the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers.

8. The UKG has considered its position on the CPED and the ICMW[11]. With regard to the CPED, the UKG considers that its current domestic framework already prevents arbitrary arrests, prohibits torture and degrading treatment, and holds the SIA to account. With regard to the ICMW, the UKG considers that the rights of migrant workers are already protected in domestic legislation, including under the HRA and the EA 2010. The UKG is therefore unclear about the benefits of ratifying the CPED and the ICMW.

9. While the specific provisions of each treaty need to be considered separately, the UKG continues to take the view that the international human rights obligations under the UN treaties ratified by the UK are primarily territorial and do not have extraterritorial effect[12]. With regard to the ECHR, the UKG has publicly stated that before embarking on significant overseas military operations it intends derogating from the ECHR, where this is appropriate in the precise circumstances of the operation in question. Any derogation would need to be justified and could only be made from certain Articles of the Convention. Whether such a derogation is made, the AAFF will continue to be subject to the rule of law at all times, including UK domestic criminal law, and where applicable, the Law of Armed Conflict[13]. Accordingly, in any part of the world where it is alleged that a member of the AAFF has committed a service offence, an investigation will be conducted which may result in a prosecution before a service court pursuant to the Armed Forces Act 2006. In 2013, the High Court confirmed that the Iraq Historic Allegations Team (IHAT), set up to support the military police-led investigations, met the ECHR requirement of independence. Statistics on IHAT's caseload are regularly published on the UKG's portal GOV.UK; the IHAT expects to conclude its work by 2019. Operation Northmoor is a separate Royal Military Police-led investigation into allegations against AAFF arising from Afghanistan; to date[14], 646 allegations have been received and, of these, 146[15] cases have been discontinued or recommended for discontinuation. Separately, a retired High Court judge has been appointed to undertake the Iraq Fatalities Investigations into the circumstances of six deaths, with further cases to follow; four of these cases have been concluded and reports published on the findings.

10. The UK signed the Istanbul Convention in 2012[16]. New provisions on extra-territorial jurisdiction require primary legislation, the enactment and implementation of which will affect the timetable for ratification of the Convention.

B. Legal framework for the protection and promotion of human rights and for combating discrimination at the national level

11. The UK domestic framework for protecting and promoting human rights and for combating discrimination[17] currently remains as set out in the CD2014[18], thus largely based on the HRA and the EA 2010.

12. A post-legislative assessment of the EA 2010 published in 2015 showed that the Act has largely achieved stronger protection against discrimination for all protected groups; there are no current plans to commence the socio-economic inequalities duty contained in Part 1 of the Act. The UKG intends to issue a public consultation about the most effective way to implement a legal ban on caste discrimination[19].

13. In Northern Ireland, the Stormont House Agreement of December 2014 provided, amongst other measures, for the establishment of an independent Historical Investigations Unit (HIU) to take forward investigations into outstanding troubles-related deaths[20]. The UKG has indicated £150m of additional funding will be available for the new institutions to deal with the past in a balanced and proportionate way. Following the "Fresh Start" Agreement of November 2015, areas of common ground in Northern Ireland were developed on the legacy institutions. The UKG will continue to work with Northern Ireland parties, victims' groups and other stakeholders to seek a resolution that will allow the Stormont House Agreement bodies to be established. The UKG is also aware of the importance of human rights in the Belfast Agreement of April 1998 and remains committed to that Agreement; the UKG is willing to consider proposals for a Northern Ireland specific Bill of Rights if sufficient consensus can be reached.

14. In Scotland, the SG 2016-17 Programme for Government contains a commitment to integrate human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals within Scotland's National Performance Framework. As part of Scottish specific equality duties, Scottish Ministers are subject to a duty to publish proposals to assist Scottish public authorities to better perform the public sector equality duty, and report on progress in this area. The SG established the Scottish National Equality Improvement Project to deliver the Scottish Ministers' proposals. The SG has also committed to introducing a socio-economic duty on public bodies in 2017.

IV. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints

A. Civil and political rights

Combating VAWG[21]

15. The UKG has introduced specific offences of stalking, forced marriage, failure to protect from Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and revenge pornography, as well as a new domestic abuse offence to capture coercive or controlling behaviour in an intimate or family relationship. The UKG also rolled out Domestic Violence Protection Orders and the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme nationally, introduced FGM Protection Orders and an FGM mandatory reporting duty, and strengthened measures to manage sex offenders or those who pose a risk of sexual harm. Civil legal aid is available for those seeking protection from domestic violence, for example to apply for a non-molestation order, occupation order, forced marriage protection order or FGM order. Civil legal aid is also available for private family law matters, such as child arrangement orders between separating couples, where there is objective evidence of domestic violence or child abuse.

16. In Northern Ireland, the NIE published in March 2016 a seven year strategy "Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse in Northern Ireland". The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 makes FGM illegal. The Serious Crime Act 2015 provides for FGM Protection Orders. Health and Social Care professionals operate in accordance with the Multi-agency Practice Guidelines on FGM, published in July 2014. The Supporting People Programme provides 13 refuges throughout Northern Ireland; total funding is over £4.6 million per year. A 24-hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline is in operation.

17. In Scotland, the SG is preparing legislation for the creation of a specific offence of domestic abuse in the current parliamentary year, and is implementing "Equally Safe", Scotland's strategy to tackle all forms of VAWG. The Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) Scotland Act 2011 introduced a civil Forced Marriage Protection Order, the breach of which is a criminal offence, and the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 made it a criminal offence to force a person into marriage. In February 2016, Scotland's National Action Plan to Prevent and Eradicate FGM was published.

18. In Wales, the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 is intended to focus the public sector on the prevention of these issues. The WG has created the National Training Framework for Wales on VAWG.

Combating human trafficking and slavery[22]

19. The UKG has introduced the Modern Slavery Act 2015 to tackle modern slavery, including introducing a maximum life sentence for perpetrators and enhanced support and protection for victims. The Act includes provisions for a transparency in supply chains measure for businesses, and for the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner. The UK's Modern Slavery Strategy 2014 sets out a comprehensive approach to tackling modern slavery. In July 2016, the Prime Minister announced a new taskforce to accelerate progress in tackling slavery and pledged £33.5m development funding to prevent slavery, including an £11m Innovation Fund to support new approaches to tackling slavery and a £3m Child Trafficking Protection Fund. The UKG has also committed £8.5m to transform the police response to this complex, multi-faceted crime. The UKG successfully argued for the establishment of UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 to end modern slavery, and ratified the ILO Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention.

20. In Northern Ireland, there is a statutory requirement on the Department of Justice to provide support and assistance to potential victims of human trafficking in the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), including all victims of modern slavery. The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 enhances the protection and support for victims of human trafficking and slavery. Section 12 of the Act places a requirement on the Department of Justice to produce an annual strategy on human trafficking and modern slavery. All children and young people who are suspected of having been trafficked, should be considered by the Health and Social Care Trust to be a child in need of care and protection under Article 18 of The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995.

21. In Scotland, the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 consolidates and strengthens criminal law against human trafficking and exploitation, introduces a maximum life sentence for perpetrators and improves support and protection for adult and child victims. Children are supported through the child protection system and eligible children are given the additional support of an independent child trafficking guardian. The Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014 obliges Police Scotland to direct victims of crime towards the Victims' Code for Scotland, which contains information about compensation and is available in a number of languages. Access to legal aid on some human trafficking matters is not contingent on formal recognition of victim status.

22. In Wales, the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 includes provisions to tackle honour based violence, forced marriages and FGM. The WG's National Training Framework on VAWG introduced a standard of training for these issues across the Welsh public service. The Wales Anti-Slavery Leadership Group provides strategic leadership for tackling slavery in Wales.

Fighting discrimination and hate crime[23]

23. The UKG has launched a new Hate Crime Action Plan in 2016. Measures include action on education, tackling hate crime in communities, increasing reporting, improving the service to victims and witnesses and improving understanding of hate crime. From April 2017, all police forces will have to provide disaggregated religious hate crime data. Statistics showed an increase in racially and religiously aggravated crime in July 2016 when compared with the previous year. However, this should not be interpreted as an absolute increase in hate crime experienced; it is most likely to be due to a number of factors, including more proactive policing, an increase in bystander reports and an increased awareness of the nature of hate crime due to high levels of media coverage. Some crimes reported to be hate crimes have subsequently been found to have no hate motivation.

24. In Northern Ireland, the NIE continues to take forward actions to tackling hate crime within the Racial Equality Strategy, and the relevant aspects of the "Together: Building United Communities Strategy". This work forms part of addressing the wider social issues that ultimately manifest through sectarianism and racist hate crime. The Department of Justice's "Community Safety Strategy 2012-2017" contains a commitment to tackling all forms of hate crime through prevention, awareness, education and support for victims and communities; the Department also chairs a multi-agency "Hate Crime Delivery Group".

25. In Scotland, the SG has invested over £100 million since 2012 to promote equality and tackle discrimination, and is continuing to work closely with partner organisations to advance the vision of "One Scotland". Each year, alongside the Draft Budget, the SG publishes an Equality Budget Statement. The SG established an Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion, which published its report on 23 September 2016. The SG has accepted the recommendations and is also working to improve the collection of data to better understand the scale and severity of hate crime.

26. In Wales, the "Tackling Hate Crimes and Incidents: A Framework for Action" was launched in May 2014. It sets out the WG's commitment to challenge hostility and prejudice. The Framework includes three objectives on prevention, support for victims and improving the multi-agency response. Since 2014 the WG provided funding to Victim Support Cymru to operate the National Hate Crime Report and Support Centre.

Protecting human rights and countering terrorism

Human rights compliance of anti-terrorism measures[24]

27. The UKG considers that its anti-terrorism measures comply with the UK international human rights obligations. The HRA requires that all legislation must be interpreted and given effect, as far as possible, in a way which is compatible with Convention rights. Further, it is unlawful for a public authority to act in a way that is incompatible with Convention rights, except when required to do so by an Act of the UK Parliament or where it is giving effect to legislation which cannot be read compatibly with Convention rights. Anti-terrorism legislation is also regularly reviewed by the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation (IRTL). Statutory guidance for the police makes clear that a person's race, religion or belief cannot be considered as reasonable grounds for suspicion of the person being a terrorist and should never be considered as a reason to stop and search or arrest a person. In his report of September 2015, the IRTL concluded that the statistics do not constitute evidence that powers under Schedule 7 Terrorism Act 2000 (power to stop, question and detain) were being used in a racially discriminatory manner.

28. There continue to be effective mechanisms under which the SIA can be held to account in the UK, these include the Investigatory Powers Tribunal (IPT) and the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament (ISC). The IPT is an independent court

which decides claims and complaints made about unlawful intrusion by public bodies, including the SIA; the IPT can order that activity is stopped, it can quash authorisations, order material to be destroyed and award compensation. The ISC comprises members of each House of Parliament; it oversees the expenditure, policies, and administration of the SIA. The UKG works constructively with the ISC to ensure that as much of its reports that can be published, is published.

29. The Justice and Security Act 2013 empowers senior courts across the UK to apply a "closed material procedure" (CMP) in civil cases involving sensitive material, the disclosure of which would be damaging to national security[25]. The process continues to contain strong judicial safeguards, and its use is closely monitored by the UKG in the form of public annual reports to the UK Parliament. The statistics show that this CMP was used in just a handful of cases in the past three years.

Use of "stop and search"[26]

30. In August 2014, the UKG launched the "Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme" whereby police forces are required to monitor the impact of stop and search, particularly on young people and BAME groups. Complaints on the use of stop and search powers by the police can be lodged with the Independent Police Complaints Commission.

31. In Scotland, Police Scotland has eliminated the non-statutory stopping and searching of children under 12. The SG has also legislated to ensure that the police publishes disaggregated data on stop and search.

Deportation with assurances[27]

32. The UKG believes that it should be able to deport foreign nationals who threaten national security to countries where there are verifiable guarantees that they will not be tortured. The UK courts along with the ECtHR found the use of diplomatic assurances to be an appropriate and legal option in safeguarding the well-being of the individuals deported. Information on the "Memoranda of Understanding on Deportations with Assurances" between the UK and other countries (namely, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Algeria) is publicly available on the UKG's website.

Treatment of detainees[28]

33. Detention facilities across the UK continue to be routinely and independently monitored by members of the UK National Preventive Mechanism established by the UK under the OPCAT since 2009.

England and Wales

34. In November 2016, the UKG published the proposals "Prison Safety and Reform" setting out the steps that the UKG will take to make prisons a place of safety and reform, including by investing additional funding and changing ways of working by putting in place a new trigger for emergency intervention by the Justice Secretary, and by building new prisons. In November 2016, the UKG reviewed its policy on the care and management of transgender offenders and concluded that treating someone in the gender in which they identify, rather than their legally recognised gender, will be the safest and the most efficient approach to a range of decisions, including deciding initial location to male and female prisons. An independent review of BAME representation in the criminal justice system (the Lammy Review) has also been taking place since January 2016, with results expected in 2017.

35. Prisoners continue to enjoy rights, such as being able to get in contact with a solicitor and receiving support for a mental health condition. Prisoners may however be

removed from association (that is, segregated) when it is necessary for reasons of maintaining good order or when it is considered unsafe to keep a prisoner on normal location and when efforts to manage the prisoner's behaviour on normal location have been unsuccessful. Prisoners may also be removed from association following adjudication for a punishment of cellular confinement for a disciplinary offence under the prison rules. If necessary, and as a last resort, segregation is for the shortest period of time. Prisoners who are segregated still have access to showers, telephone calls, visits and daily exercise. Staff and healthcare professionals make frequent and regular safety checks on segregated prisoners throughout the day and night.

36. The UKG is modernising its prison estate so that it is less crowded and better able to tackle reoffending. Other measures to help reduce reoffending include, as of 1 February 2015, that all offenders released from short prison sentences receive 12 months of supervision in the community; most offenders are also given continuous support by one provider from custody until release into the community, for example by receiving help and referrals necessary to obtain housing, employment and training.

37. The UKG has designated all women's prisons as resettlement prisons, enabling women prisoners to be held close to home, whilst undertaking all the rehabilitative elements relevant to their offending. The UKG has also published an updated Probation Instruction on pre-sentence reports to ensure that the full range of non-custodial options for individuals are put before the court; this includes a self-assessment declaration which asks offenders whether they are a primary carer, or have been pregnant or given birth within the last 6 months. Places in "Mother and Baby Units" are provided for women prisoners who are pregnant or who have children under the age of 18 months to allow them to continue to care for their child where that is considered to be in the best interests of the child; babies can spend time away from the prisons with nominated carers.

38. The UKG's position on the minimum age of criminal responsibility remains that children aged 10 are able to differentiate between bad behaviour and serious wrongdoing and it is right that they should be held to account for their actions. However, custody for young people aged 10–17 years old remains an option of last resort.

39. In Wales, the 2016 revision to the Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice for Wales makes specific reference to the commitment to reduce the use of police custody for children when detained under the Mental Health Act and the continued investment in mental health services for those detained in secure conditions. The Women's Pathfinder Project was launched in September 2015, funded by the WG, to provide services for women who come into contact with the criminal justice system in Wales.

Northern Ireland

40. The Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 amended the statutory aims of the youth justice system fully to reflect the "best interest of the child" principle under the CRC. The use of pre-trial detention for children was a key consideration of the "Scoping Study" undertaken on children in the justice system. There is no simple solution, as there is no single root cause of the problem; rather there are a range of diverse causes including delay in processing cases, lack of viable alternative accommodation in the community, and legislative provision in need of revision. Consideration is being given to addressing each of these issues with a view to using custody as a last resort.

Scotland

41. Scotland's prison population is stabilising and has continued to fall over the past few years. The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) continues to invest in the modernisation of the prison estate and implement its transformational change agenda, which has an emphasis on

building a person-centred, asset-based approach in order to invest in rehabilitation and reintegration services. The SG is committed to reducing the use of short-term imprisonment through greater use of robust community sentences.

42. The SG announced the decision to build a new national prison for women on the current site of HMP Cornton Vale and up to five small community-based custodial units across Scotland. The SG has also provided local justice bodies with additional funding to develop local community justice services for women. The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 introduced a provision which will require the SPS to ask prisoners whether they are a parent or guardian of a child. If this is the case, the parent must be asked for information that will help SPS identify the child's Named Person service provider (in terms of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014).

43. In considering the possibility of placing a child in secure accommodation, a chief social work officer needs to identify the aim and objectives of such a placement in terms of the child's assessed behaviour and needs, and the capacity of the establishment to meet those aims and objectives. Placement in secure accommodation is designed to rehabilitate the child and, where necessary, protect the public, and can only take place when various criteria are met. No child in Scotland under the age of 16 years is detained in a prison. Young people in secure care are never held in solitary confinement.

44. The SG announced on 1 December 2016 that it will be introducing a Bill in the current Parliamentary session to increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 8 to 12, with appropriate safeguards in relation to issues such as forensic sampling and risk management. This will align the age of criminal responsibility with the minimum age of prosecution in Scotland.

Access to justice

England and Wales

45. The scope of the civil legal aid scheme in England and Wales was reformed in 2013 under the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO). Legal aid continues to be available in the most serious cases (such as where people's life or liberty is at stake, where they face the loss of their home, in domestic violence cases or where their children may be taken into care). Exceptional case funding (ECF) may be available for matters that are generally out of scope for legal aid. ECF may be available where failure to provide legal aid would breach the applicant's rights under the ECHR or EU law (or, in the light of the risk of a breach, it is appropriate to provide funding), subject to means and merits tests. Where migrant refugee children applying for permission to remain in the UK are seeking asylum, legal aid will be available for those that meet the means and merits tests. In other immigration cases, a guardian or other advisor may be able to provide some assistance in filling in forms, explaining terms and to provide emotional support. Social services have access to an on-line directory of providers of legal services, administered by the Legal Aid Agency, which helps to ensure that an unaccompanied child will be able to access the services they require. The UKG has committed to review the legal aid provisions in the LASPO within 3-5 years of implementation, thus by 2018. The precise timing and form of this review will be guided by the UKG's assessment of the extent to which the reforms have reached a steady state, and by its own and also stakeholders' research and evidence on the impacts of reform. The UKG continues to monitor closely the impact of any changes to make sure children have access to legal aid when it is needed.

46. The UKG enables effective access to courts and tribunals through a fee remission system, so that those unable to afford fees are not denied access. The remission scheme is targeted towards those in vulnerable households on low incomes who are in receipt of certain State benefits. In June 2015, the UKG announced a post-implementation review of

the introduction of employment tribunal fees across the UK. This review, published in January 2017, included an examination of the impact of fees in relation to characteristics protected under the EA 2010. In November 2016, the UKG announced a review of the fees for Immigration and Asylum Chamber's appeals. The review will consider these fees alongside the fees charged in other tribunals, and will take into account the wider context of funding for the system overall.

Scotland

47. In Scotland, legal aid maintains a wide scope and is demand-led. All who are eligible will receive legal aid, including children, who can access it on the same broad range of issues as adults as long as they have capacity to instruct a solicitor. Provisions in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 will ensure that every person detained at a police station has the right to a private consultation with a lawyer and to have a lawyer present during interview, and this applies also to those attending voluntarily for interview, where they are suspected of committing an offence. In its 2015 Programme for Government, the SG committed to abolishing employment tribunal fees once it is clear how the transfer of powers and responsibilities will work.

B. Economic, social and cultural rights

Business and human rights

48. The UK was the first country to produce a National Action Plan in September 2013, and also the first to review and update it in May 2016. The UKG has taken concrete measures to promote business and human rights, including through the Modern Slavery Act 2015, amendments to the Companies Act 2006, and the provision of guidance to specific sectors. The UKG also continues to encourage wide adoption of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP), and collaboration between government, business, and civil society organisations in that process.

49. In Scotland, Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights contains a commitment to develop a coordinated plan of action in Scotland to give effect to the UNGP, building on the UK's National Action Plan. A national baseline assessment has been published.

Welfare reforms[29]

50. The Welfare Reform Act 2012 and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 are the centrepieces of the UKG's strategy. The UKG wants the benefit sanctions system to be clear, fair and effective in promoting positive behaviours and it keeps the policy under continuous review to ensure it meets those aims. The simplification and reform of the welfare system includes, amongst other measures, the introduction of "Universal Credit" alongside the abolition of six previous sources of financial support with a single monthly payment for those on a low income whether in work or not. The strategy encourages, including through benefit sanctions where appropriate, those who can work to find and keep work and to increase their earnings rather than relying on benefits. Claimants are only asked to meet reasonable requirements to help them prepare for or find work, which take into account their individual circumstances and capability, including health conditions, disability and caring responsibilities. These requirements are clearly explained and agreed with claimants.

Combating poverty[40]

51. Tackling child poverty and disadvantage, and delivering real social justice, is a priority for the UKG. Ultimately, work is the best route out of poverty and this approach is working as shown by a record high employment rate in the UK. Through provisions in the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016, the UKG has introduced new statutory measures which will drive action on parental worklessness and children's educational attainment – the two areas that make the biggest difference to the lives of disadvantaged children and their families. The forthcoming Green Paper on Social Justice will build on these measures and say more about the UKG's approach to tackling disadvantage. The UKG is taking targeted action to help people into employment, help people progress in work and reduce the essential costs of living (including, for example, by increasing the National Living Wage, raising the personal tax allowance).

52. In Northern Ireland, the NIE has put in place a programme of supplementary welfare payments to help groups transitioning to the new welfare system. The NIE has allocated £501 million to a variety of mitigation schemes; for example, financial support will be available to people with a disability, those providing care for disabled people and families with children. The Life Chances Act 2010 requires the NIE to publish a Child Poverty Strategy, report on it annually and review and revise it every three years. The current strategy, published in March 2016 aims to both reduce the number of children in poverty and reduce the impact of poverty on children. A "Benefit Update Programme" has been in place since 2013 to ensure that every individual and household is receiving all the social security benefits to which they and their families are entitled.

53. In Scotland, the SG invested £296 million in 2013-16 to support people via the Scottish Welfare Fund, Discretionary Housing Payments, the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and other activity, such as advice and advocacy support services. In addition, over £100 million has been made available in 2016-17 to maintain spending on these initiatives. The SG's "Fairer Scotland Action Plan" of October 2016 is built on five high-level ambitions for the period to 2030: a fairer Scotland for all; ending child poverty; a strong start for all young people; fairer working lives; a thriving third age. The Plan's actions include: a new socio-economic duty on public authorities; commitments to promote good flexible working; and a new £29 million fund (with £12.5 million of European money) to support communities and the third sector to develop new, innovative approaches to tackling poverty.

54. In Wales, the WG's priorities for tackling child poverty include building a strong economy which supports the poverty agenda, reducing worklessness, increasing skills, reducing inequalities in health and education outcomes (by improving the outcomes of those who are most disadvantaged) and supporting households to increase their income. A "Welsh Food Poverty Alliance", supported by the WG, was established, amongst other goals, to increase the uptake of free school meals.

Promoting gender equality, the rights of older persons and the rights of persons with disabilities

Addressing the gender pay gap[41]

55. The UK gender pay gap is currently at its lowest level ever, at 18.1%. Measures to address it include gender pay gap reporting which will apply to employers with more than 250 staff covering around half of the total workforce. The metrics organisations will be required to publish include: mean gender pay gap; median gender pay gap; mean and median gender bonus gap; proportions of male and female employees that received a bonus; and salary quartiles. Organisations are required to publish these metrics annually.

56. In Northern Ireland, the current Gender Equality Strategy runs from 2006 to 2016. Section 19 of the Employment Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 provides that employers must publish information showing whether any gender pay disparities exist between their employees. Where gender pay differences are identified, an employer will be required to publish an action plan to eliminate them.

57. In Scotland, the gender pay gap for full-time employees decreased from 7.7% in 2015 to 6.2% in 2016. In February 2016, the SG reduced the threshold for listed public authorities to report their gender pay gap and publish statements on equal pay and occupational segregation, from those with more than 150 employees to those with more than 20 employees.

58. In Wales, the WG introduced a robust public sector equality duty to address pay and employment differences and specifically gender pay differences. All public sector employers in Wales are required to report annually on disparities in pay and address employment or pay differences.

Rights of older persons

59. The UKG has, amongst other measures, extended the right to request flexible working to all qualifying employees, and introduced automatic enrolment into a workplace pension scheme. The Care Act 2014 prioritises independence and wellbeing, and gives people greater choice and control of their care. The Age Action Alliance, a partnership of civil society, public and private sector organisations, works to find new ways to help improve the lives of the most disadvantaged older people and prevent deprivation in later life. The UK will also continue to engage constructively in international discussions on the rights of older people, including those around any possible further standards.

60. In Northern Ireland, older people have protection under domestic human rights and equality laws, including the HRA and s.75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The Department of Health ensures that any standards being developed or revised for older people and their care are underpinned by the HRA and the ECHR.

61. In Scotland, the Scottish Welfare Fund assists those on a low income in need to overcome a crisis or emergency, or to settle or remain in their own home where there is risk of an individual needing to go into care institutions. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 requires local integration of adult health and social care services to ensure that those who use services get the right care and support, whatever their needs. The SG's third three-year National Dementia Strategy will focus on, amongst other priorities, ensuring more people are diagnosed earlier.

62. In Wales, the "Declaration of Rights for Older People" brings to life the existing rights that older people already have in law, including under the HRA and EA 2010.

Rights of persons with disabilities

63. The UKG is committed to enabling all disabled people fulfil their potential and achieve their aspirations. A wide suite of employment related programmes and initiatives are available to support disabled people into work including providing help with the additional costs faced by individuals whose health or disability affects the way they do their job. Welfare reforms since 2012 have included measures to ensure that disabled people receive the support that they need. For example: vulnerable claimants are exempted from the benefit cap. In April 2017, the UKG will also continue to fulfil its statutory obligation to increase benefits to meet additional disability needs, and carer benefits, in line with the growth in prices. The UKG has published a green paper on Work, Health & Disability, and is seeking to further improve work-related support for disabled people with the longer term

aim of halving the disability employment gap. The UKG has also commissioned an independent review to help those with mental health conditions thrive in the workplace.

64. In Northern Ireland, the NIE's Autism Strategy (2013–2016) and Action Plan (2013–16) aim to improve the lives of people with autism and their families. The process of resettling long-stay Mental Health and Learning Disability patients out of hospital and into the community is almost complete; the evidence clearly suggests that the quality of life of those who have been resettled has much improved. The "Disability Action Transport Scheme" provides specialised individual transport services for people meeting the membership criteria, who find it difficult to use public transport.

65. In Scotland, on 2 December 2016 the SG published its new Disability Delivery Plan "A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People" which will work to remove the barriers disabled people can face when it comes to finding and sustaining employment, and developing their careers. The SG is also developing a framework to support disabled children and their families, and is committed to ensuring that everybody who wants to work has the opportunity to find fulfilling jobs. Measures introduced to increase the number of disabled people in the workforce include Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy; autism and learning disabilities strategies and a supported employment model.

66. In Wales, the aim of the WG's Framework for Action on Independent Living (published in 2013 and presently under review) is to promote the rights of disabled people in Wales and to enable their full participation in society.

Trade union rights

67. The Trade Union Act 2016 was introduced to modernise the UK industrial relations framework. The Act introduced, amongst other measures, the requirements for minimum ballot thresholds (a 50% turnout in all industrial action ballots, and a 40% support requirement in favour of industrial action for specified important public services). None of the reforms in the Act are about banning strikes but will instead ensure that strikes happen only as a result of a clear, positive decision by those entitled to vote. Further, the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 prevents discrimination for reasons relating to trade union membership.

Housing

Combating homelessness

68. In England, Part 7 Housing Act 1996 provides a strong safety net for vulnerable households at risk of homelessness. Local authorities must ensure that advice and information about homelessness and the prevention of homelessness is available free of charge to any person in their district, and provide accommodation for eligible households who are homeless through no fault of their own and who are in priority need. The UKG has increased funding for homelessness programmes to £149 million until 2019/20, including: a £20 million programme to provide rapid interventions to stop people at risk of rough sleeping from ending up on the street; and £10 million to support 1,500–2,000 individuals with complex needs (like drug addiction and mental health concerns) to break the cycle of homelessness.

69. In Scotland, since 2012, all those assessed by local authorities as being homeless through no fault of their own are entitled to settled accommodation. Furthermore, anyone threatened with or experiencing homelessness is legally entitled to a minimum of temporary accommodation, advice and assistance from their local authority. The SG has focused on the holistic and person-centred "Housing Options" approach to homelessness prevention, which features early intervention and explores all possible tenure options. The Homeless

Persons (Unsuitable Accommodation) (Scotland) Order 2014 outlines standards of accommodation which would be unsuitable for households with children and pregnant women unless there are exceptional circumstances.

70. In Wales, the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 introduced duties upon local authorities to help to prevent homelessness for all eligible persons regardless of their family composition or personal circumstances. To support the implementation of the new duties, a revised guidance was produced. In 2015/16, an additional £5.6 million was provided via the Homelessness Prevention Grant to help local authorities implement the new duties. The Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 was introduced to make it simpler and easier to rent a home.

Gypsies and Travellers

71. The UK has a strong and well-established legal framework which protects all individuals, including Gypsies and Travellers against racial and other forms of discrimination.

72. Local authorities are responsible for the provision of an adequate number of Gypsy and Traveller sites through the planning system. Local authorities should objectively assess their traveller needs and identify a suitable five-year supply of sites to meet their needs. In November 2016, the UKG announced an expansion of the Shared Ownership and Affordable Homes Programme 2016-21 by an additional £1.4bn. Traveller pitches will be funded through the Affordable Rent element of the Programme.

73. In Northern Ireland, the "Racial Equality Strategy 2015-2025" recognises that there may need to be specific programmes of work to address particular challenges and vulnerabilities facing particular groups such as Irish Travellers and the Roma. The Northern Ireland Housing Executive establishes and manages the accommodation needs of Travellers through the "Comprehensive Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment".

74. In Scotland, the SG allocated over £200,000 funding in 2016–17 to organisations working with Gypsy/Travellers, and published minimum quality standards for Gypsy/Traveller sites and core rights and responsibilities for site tenants. The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 places a statutory duty on local authorities to prepare a Local Housing Strategy supported by an assessment of housing provision and related services.

75. In Wales, the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 introduces duties upon local authorities to ensure Gypsy and Traveller sites are provided to meet the needs identified in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments. This includes need for residential and transit sites which meet improved standards in the WG's Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites guidance. Since 2012, the WG has invested approximately £12m by opening two new sites, extending 5 more and refurbishing many others through our Sites Capital Grant funding. It has also published guidance to improve health outcomes and educational support for Gypsy and Travellers.

Protecting children's rights[32]

England

76. Existing legislation and policies continue to give effect to the rights and obligations in the CRC and regard is given to this Convention when developing new legislation or policy. The Children Act 1989 requires every court to treat the child's welfare as its paramount consideration when dealing with any question concerning his or her upbringing. All children who are the subject of care proceedings will have a guardian and a lawyer to represent them. There are also specialist SEN (Special Educational Needs) tribunals for children with special educational needs, and comprehensive complaints procedures where a

child is dissatisfied with, for example, their care or education. The Children and Families Act 2014 introduced greater independence for the Children's Commissioner for England who can now provide advice and assistance to individual children receiving social care or otherwise living away from home, and monitor the effectiveness of complaints and advocacy services for children.

77. The attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers has narrowed at both key stage 2 (age 11) and key stage 4 (age 16) since 2011. The pupil premium, worth £2.5bn in 2016, provides schools with additional money to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities. The UKG has provided the Education Endowment Foundation with £137 million to expand the evidence base on what works best to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and communicate this to schools.

78. The UKG does not condone any violence towards children and has clear laws to deal with it. But parents should not be criminalised for giving a child a mild smack in order to control their behaviour. The "reasonable chastisement" defence is only available when the charge is one of common assault; it cannot be used when someone is charged with assault causing actual or grievous bodily harm, or with child cruelty.

Northern Ireland

79. The Department of Health published updated child protection policy guidance, "Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland", in March 2016. The guidance provides a regional framework for safeguarding children and young people, encompassing the full range of promotion, prevention, early intervention and protection activity for the statutory, private, independent, community, charitable, faith and voluntary sectors. The NIE's "Children's and Young People's Strategy" is aimed at achieving better outcomes for children and young people; facilitating better co-operation across all relevant bodies and stakeholders; and ensuring better delivery of activities, programmes and policies. The Addressing Bullying in Schools Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 will: provide a common definition of bullying; require all schools to centrally record incidents of bullying, their motivation and their outcome; and require the Board of Governors collectively to take responsibility for the development, implementation, monitoring and periodic review of the school's anti-bullying policies and procedures.

80. The Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 makes it a duty of the Education Authority to have regard to the views of the child when making decisions about their special educational needs. It also gives new rights to children over compulsory school age, recognising their growing independence. This includes the right to mediation and the right of appeal.

81. The law on physical punishment has been in line with England and Wales since September 2006. Legislation and standards are also in place to ensure that corporal punishment is prohibited in children's homes, day-care and fostering settings. Measures to promote positive parenting and advocate alternative forms of discipline include the publication of information booklets, which provide advice, support and useful contacts for parents and carers.

Scotland

82. The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 places specific duties on Scottish Ministers to consider steps which might secure better or further effect in Scotland of the CRC; promote public awareness and understanding of children's rights; and report every three years to the Scottish Parliament on progress made and their plans for the subsequent three year period. The Act also places a duty on a wide range of public authorities, including local authorities and health boards, to report every three years on the

steps they have taken in that period to secure better or further effect of the CRC requirements. When commenced, provisions in the Act will empower the Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland to conduct investigations on behalf of individual children.

83. The SG launched the "Scottish Attainment Challenge" to help deliver equity in educational outcomes, with a particular focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap. It is supported by the £750 million Attainment Scotland Fund, which currently targets support to schools and local authorities with the highest numbers of pupils living in areas of multiple deprivation and, from 2017–18, will provide additional support to schools based on the number of pupils eligible for free school meals, reaching around 95% of schools in Scotland. The SG pays tuition fees for eligible full-time Scottish domiciled and EU students studying their first Higher National Certificate / Diploma or undergraduate degree at Scottish higher education institutions. Bursaries and student loans are available to ensure that Scottish-domiciled higher education students are able to support themselves, and a minimum income guarantee provides financial living support for the poorest households.

84. The existing legislation in Scotland makes it illegal to punish children by shaking, hitting on the head or using an implement. The SG remains opposed to physical punishment of children but does not intend to bring legislation forward to repeal all legal defences and ban physical punishment, which could potentially criminalise parents for lightly smacking their children.

Wales

85. The Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011 places a duty on Welsh Ministers to have due regard to the CRC when exercising any of their functions. The Children's Rights Scheme 2014 sets out the arrangements that the WG has in place to comply with the duty, including a Children's Rights Impact Assessment.

86. The proposal "Rewriting the future: raising ambition and attainment in Welsh Schools" was published in 2014 and sets out what schools, working with their parents/carers, can do to break down the barriers faced by children from deprived backgrounds. The Pupil Deprivation Grant provides financial support to schools to help tackle the effects of poverty on educational attainment, and to support children who are looked after. In 2015-16, the Early Years Pupil Deprivation Grant was introduced to support eligible learners aged 3 and 4. In 2014, the WG published "Travelling Together", a set of resources to promote the integration of Gypsy and Traveller culture into the national curriculum of Wales.

87. The WG is committed to take forward, on a cross-party basis, legislation that will remove the defence of reasonable punishment. The proposed legislation will be one part of a wider package of measures to promote positive parenting. It is intended to drive change, but will work hand in hand with positive parenting methods and support.

Promoting health[10]

88. The NHS remains a universal service for all eligible residents, based on need, not ability to pay. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 introduced legal duties to have regard to the need to reduce health inequalities in the benefits which can be obtained from the health service. Health outcomes such as life expectancy have improved for all parts of the population, and although health inequalities remain, there has been some success in reducing the health gap in infant mortality, coronary heart disease and cancer. The UKG also introduced a suicide prevention strategy in 2012, supported by £1.5 million for new research, and is implementing recommendations from the independent "Five Year Forward View" for mental health to reduce the national suicide rate by 10% by 2020/21, and to

implement multi-agency suicide prevention plans in local NHS by 2017. The UKG is investing an additional £1.4bn by 2020 to improve child and adolescent mental health services. Prisoners are entitled to receive an equivalent range and quality of treatment and services from the NHS as people in the community, including for mental health problems, with care and treatment given according to clinical need. Liaison and Diversion (L&D) services provide early interventions for individuals of all ages when they first enter the criminal justice system and inform decision-makers in the criminal justice system when sentencing people referred to L&D services. L&D services operate at police stations and courts across half of England and help the judiciary divert vulnerable offenders to the most appropriate place of treatment at sentencing, which might include community treatment, not custody.

89. In Northern Ireland, a public health framework "Making Life Better" provides direction for actions to improve health and reduce health inequalities. It is underpinned by a number of health promotion strategies and action plans, for example in relation to tobacco, alcohol and drug misuse and other health priorities. In March 2016, the Department of Health issued "Guidance to Health and Social Professionals on Termination of Pregnancy"[34]. The guidance aims to provide clarity for practicing health and social care professionals on the law framing termination of pregnancy in Northern Ireland. The Health and Justice Ministers are considering recommendations to improve the care and support for women in the specific circumstances where a diagnosis of a fatal foetal abnormality has been made. The Mental Capacity Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 received Royal Assent in May 2016; work on implementing the Act has been commenced by the Department of Health.

90. In Scotland, anyone who is living in Scotland legally is able to register with a General Practitioner practice to receive NHS general medical services. SG measures to tackle the underlying causes of health inequalities include investment in affordable housing, free school meals and continuing commitments to free prescriptions, concessionary travel and free personal care, coupled with decisive action to address alcohol consumption, reduce smoking rates, encouraging active living and healthy eating, and investment to improve mental health services. In 2011, the SG launched the Scottish Strategy for Autism, which has been reframed into an Outcomes Approach with four key outcomes that aim to ensure that people with autism should be afforded the same rights as all citizens. In 2013, the SG launched the "Keys to Life" strategy which focuses on reducing the inequalities faced by people who have learning disabilities. The SG has set aside £150 million to invest in improving mental health and is developing a new strategy for mental health, which will set out a vision for the next 10 years and how to transform services. The SG is implementing the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 2015 and will promote independent advocacy and advance statements, alongside a rights-based approach in the statutory guidance on the use of mental health legislation. The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) has funded training for residential officers in managing prisoners with challenging behaviours and personality disorders, and the NHS operates an in-reach service across prison establishments in Scotland with a mixture of forensic psychiatrists and general adult psychiatrists in attendance. Several third sector agencies also provide additional services and support for prisoners with mental health issues. On 29 November 2016, the SPS launched its new Suicide Prevention Strategy, Talk to Me, which is intended to enable the whole prison community to work together to identify vulnerable individuals, share information and encourage those "at risk" to accept help and support.

91. In Wales, the WG committed to put the needs, rights and contributions of people with protected characteristics at the heart of the design and delivery of all public services, in particular health and mental health services. The objectives will be reported on annually. The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 introduced duties on any person exercising functions under the Act to have regard to the CRC and the UN Principles for

Older Persons. In 2015 the WG announced an investment of £7.65 million annually in child and adolescent mental health services. The strategy "Together for Mental Health" was published in 2012; it is a 10-year strategy for improving mental health and well-being and improving the care and treatment of people using mental health services, carers and families.

Promoting development overseas[35]

92. The UK is committed to providing 0.7% of Gross National Income to Official Development Assistance. The Global Goals, which sit at the heart of the UK Aid Strategy, represent a commitment to achieve substantive, measurable improvements on economic, social and political human rights. A range of aid programmes protect and promote human rights in areas such as women and girls, health, peace, security and justice.

V. Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories

93. The legal framework for protecting and promoting human rights and for combating discrimination in the CDs and OTs[36] remains broadly as set out in the CD2014[37]. Major developments since 2012 have been summarised below.

Crown Dependencies

94. Guernsey's equality and rights programme now includes a number of specific work streams, including on disability and inclusion, mental health, shared parental leave and ageing. A same-sex marriage law to give same-sex marriages in Guernsey the same rights and responsibilities as marriages between a man and a woman was introduced in 2016, as well as statutory maternity and adoption leave. In 2016, Sark introduced a new children's law which sets out the responsibilities of parents and others caring for children in line with the principles set out in the CRC.

95. In 2014, the OPCAT was extended to the Isle of Man. Progress has been made during 2016 with bringing provisions of the Isle of Man's Disability Discrimination Act 2006 into operation. Also in 2016, the Isle of Man has passed, and brought into operation, the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Amendment) Act 2016, allowing same sex couples to marry and opposite sex couples to form civil partnerships. A comprehensive Equality Bill, which is based closely on the EA 2010, has been introduced into Tynwald (the Isle of Man's Parliament).

96. In 2014, the CRC, CRC-OP-AC and CRC-OP-SC were extended to Jersey. The Government of Jersey has introduced the Discrimination (Jersey) Law 2013 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of certain protected characteristics, which to date include race, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, and pregnancy and maternity. In 2015 the Jersey Police introduced a new 'Hate Crime Policy' which places an increased emphasis on all reported crimes that may be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person's race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or gender.

Overseas Territories

97. The UKG continues to expect the OTs to abide by the same basic human rights standards as the UK. There has been steady progress since 2012, but the UK and OT Governments recognise that further work and support is needed to realise this ambition. To date, most of the populated OTs have had one or more of the following UN treaties extended to them: ICCPR, ICESCR, ICERD, CAT, CRC and CEDAW. The Virgin Islands,

Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands have had all six extended to them. In March 2016, the CEDAW was extended to Anguilla and the Cayman Islands. At the annual OT Joint Ministerial Council in November 2016, the UK and OT Governments agreed to work together to achieve progress in the extension of the above six UN human rights treaties and to conduct a review of outstanding reservations on behalf of the OTs. There will be further joint work to further develop the capability of OT NHRIs, in line with the Paris Principles, and to promote understanding of shared international human rights obligations.

98. On 16 November 2016, the UKG announced its decision not to resettle the Chagossian people on the British Indian Ocean Territory on the grounds of feasibility, defence and security interests, and cost to British tax payers. The UKG has considered carefully the practicalities of setting up a small remote community on low-lying islands and the challenges that any community would face. Instead, the UKG will seek to support improvements to the livelihoods of Chagossians in the communities where they now live and will fund a package of approximately £40 million over the next 10 years to achieve this goal.

Notes

[1] There are 3 Crown Dependencies: Bailiwick of Guernsey; Bailiwick of Jersey; Isle of Man.
[2] http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/CoreDocuments.aspx
[3] There are 14 British Overseas Territories but only 10 have permanent indigenous populations, namely: Anguilla; Bermuda; Cayman Islands; Falkland Islands; Gibraltar; Montserrat; the group Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno; the group St Helena, Ascension, Tristan da Cunha; Turks and Caicos Islands; Virgin Islands (commonly known as the British Virgin Islands).
[4] http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/countries.aspx
[5] http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session13/GB/UKMidTermReport_Aug2014.doc
[6] ICERD, ICCPR, ICESCR, CAT, CEDAW, CRC, CRPD.
[7] OPCAT, ICCPR-OP2, CRC-OP-AC, CRC-OP-SC, CEDAW-OP, CRPD-OP.
[8] UPR recommendations 110.4, 110.6–110.8, 110.11–110.13, 110.30, 110.31.
[9] UPR recommendations 110.1, 110.5, 110.26.
[10] UPR recommendation 110.48.
[11] UPR recommendations 110.14–110.19, 110.20–110.26, 110.28.
[12] UPR recommendation 110.3.
[13] UPR recommendations 110.33, 110.67, 110.68.
[14] 18 November 2016.
[15] As at 26 January 2017.
[16] UPR recommendations 110.29, 110.74.
[17] UPR recommendations 110.32, 110.39, 110.44, 110.46, 110.49, 110.50, 110.53, 110.66, 110.102, 110.103, 110.116.
[18] Pages 36–38 of CD2014.
[19] UPR recommendation 110.61.
[20] UPR recommendation 110.92.
[21] UPR recommendations 110.40, 110.51, 110.69–110.71.
[22] UPR recommendations 110.72–110.76, 110.99.
[23] UPR recommendations 110.43, 110.59, 110.60, 110.90, 110.91.
[24] UPR recommendations 110.58, 110.118–110.121.
[25] UPR recommendation 110.83.
[26] UPR recommendations 110.54–110.57.
[27] UPR recommendation 110.122.
[28] UPR recommendations 110.86–110.89, 110.94–110.96.
[29] UPR recommendation 110.42, 110.101.
[30] UPR recommendation 110.41.
[31] UPR recommendations 110.40, 110.52, 110.62–110.65.

[32] UPR recommendations 110.9, 110.10, 110.38, 110.78–110.80, 110.106.
[33] UPR recommendation 110.102.
[34] UPR recommendation 110.77.
[35] UPR recommendation 110.129.
[36] UPR recommendations 110.2, 110.45.
[37] Respectively pages 115–147, and 40–115 of CD2014.

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Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies and special procedures and other relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies[1, 2]

2. In 2016, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination encouraged the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to consider ratifying those international human rights instruments it had not yet ratified, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and Domestic Workers Convention 2011 (No. 189).[3]

3. In 2016, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights encouraged the United Kingdom to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights and to consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.[4]

4. In 2016, the Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that the United Kingdom consider ratifying the Council of Europe Conventions on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence[5] and on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse.[6]

5. In 2015, the Human Rights Committee reiterated its recommendation that the United Kingdom review its remaining reservations to articles 10, 14 and 24 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with a view to withdrawing them.[7]

6. In 2013, the Committee against Torture recommended that the United Kingdom make the declarations envisaged under article 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.[8]

7. The United Kingdom has contributed annually to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) since 2012, including to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture in 2012 and to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery in 2012, 2014 and 2016.[9]

III. National human rights framework[10]

8. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was concerned that the proposal to replace the Human Rights Act of 1998 with a new British bill of rights could lead to decreased levels of human rights protection. It recommended that the United Kingdom undertake meaningful and broad public consultations on its proposal to revise its human rights legislation.[11] The Committee against Torture invited the State party to ensure that public statements or legislative changes, such as the establishment of a bill of rights, do not erode the level of constitutional protection afforded to the prohibition of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment currently provided by the Human Rights Act.[12]

9. The High Commissioner for Human Rights stated that he was troubled about the proposal to scrap the Human Rights Act and its impact in the United Kingdom and other countries.[13] He called upon the United Kingdom to set an example by ensuring that human rights protection frameworks that were already established were not subsequently weakened.[14]

10. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that the United Kingdom ensure that any new law provides effective protection of human rights across all jurisdictions of the State.[15] It also regretted that a bill of rights for Northern Ireland had not yet been adopted and urged the United Kingdom to expedite its adoption.[16]

11. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination noted that the United Kingdom maintained its position that there was no obligation to incorporate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into domestic law. It recommended that the United Kingdom ensure that the principles and provisions of the Convention are directly and fully applicable under domestic law in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as in the overseas territories and Crown dependencies.[17]

12. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned that the powers of the Children's Commissioners for Northern Ireland and Wales were still limited. It recommended strengthening their independence and allocating the necessary human and financial resources to the Commissioners in all jurisdictions.[18] The Human Rights Committee made similar recommendations regarding the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission.[19] The Committee against Torture made similar recommendations regarding the bodies of the national preventive mechanism.[20]

IV. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Cross-cutting issues

1. Equality and non-discrimination[21]

13. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences was concerned that women from black and minority ethnic communities, women belonging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex communities and women with disabilities were often linked to entrenched discriminatory practices in the political, social and economic spheres.[22]

14. The Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent recommended that the Government work with the media to emphasize the richness of diversity and that the media avoid statements and remarks that tend to foster fear of minorities and foreigners and lead to incidents of racism and xenophobia.[23] The High Commissioner for Human Rights urged the United Kingdom authorities, media and regulatory bodies to take steps to curb incitement to hatred by British tabloid newspapers, in line with the country's obligations under national and international law.[24]

15. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the State party revise its legislation in Northern Ireland to ensure that it afforded protection to women on an equal footing with other women in the State party's administrations.[25]

16. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that the State provide protection against discrimination on the grounds of their age for all children under 18 years of age.[26]

17. The Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons deplored the wave of ageist attacks on older people in the wake of the referendum to leave the European Union.[27]

2. Development, the environment, and business and human rights

18. The Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes called on the United Kingdom to ensure that leaving the European Union does not lower the level of protection of human rights, including protection against the impacts of toxic pollution.[28]

3. Human rights and counter-terrorism[29]

19. The Human Rights Committee was concerned that the United Kingdom had maintained the broadly formulated definition of terrorism in the Terrorism Act 2000, which could include a politically motivated action designed to influence a government or international organization.[30] It was concerned that the new Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 introduced wide-ranging powers designed to promote public safety, allegedly without sufficient safeguards.[31]

20. The Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association expressed concern at the planned counter-extremism bill, which could authorize the issuance of civil orders to ban "non-violent extremist groups". He warned that, if defined in vague terms, this could open the door to arbitrary interpretation and tread into the territory of policing thought and opinion.[32] He emphasized that singling out certain

organizations on the stereotypical assumption, based on general characteristics such as religion and the predominant race of the membership of the organization, that they were likely to participate in terrorist activities was not only disproportionate, but constituted discrimination and was prohibited under international law.[55]

21. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination expressed concern that the new counter-terrorism measures, including the counter-extremism strategy, had created an atmosphere of suspicion towards members of Muslim communities and urged it to evaluate the impact of existing counter-terrorism measures to ensure that there are effective monitoring mechanisms and sufficient safeguards against abuse.[56]

22. The Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association expressed concern about the "Prevent" strategy, which focuses on individuals and groups that appear contrary to the British values of democracy, pluralism and tolerance, and who were seen as being predisposed to respond to terrorist ideologies. The Special Rapporteur was concerned that "Prevent" was having the opposite of its intended effect by dividing, stigmatizing and alienating segments of the population.[57]

23. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended strengthening oversight mechanisms, including regular independent reviews, to assess and ensure that the implementation of the counter-terrorism and counter-extremism measures would not have a discriminatory or stigmatizing impact on any group of children.[58]

B. Civil and political rights

1. Right to life, liberty and security of person[59]

24. The Committee against Torture was concerned by remaining ambiguities in the legislation, which appeared to provide an "escape clause" to the absolute prohibition of torture. The United Kingdom should ensure that the Criminal Justice Act 1988 reflected the absolute prohibition of torture.[58] It recommended that the State adopt a clear policy and ensure in practice that the transfer of detainees to another country is clearly prohibited when there are substantial grounds for believing the detainee would be in danger of being subjected to torture.[59]

25. The Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment stressed that the United Kingdom was obliged to bring to justice and punish all those who encouraged, ordered, tolerated or perpetrated acts of torture.[60]

26. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that the number of women who were incarcerated was growing.[61] She called upon the United Kingdom to assess the specific needs of women, particularly young women, in prisons and to develop gender-specific sentencing alternatives.[62]

2. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law[63]

27. The Human Rights Committee recommended that the State party ensure that any restrictions or limitations on fair trial guarantees that are based on national security grounds are fully compliant with its obligations under the Covenant, and particularly that the use of closed material procedures in cases involving serious human rights violations does not create obstacles to establishing State responsibility and accountability, or compromise the right of victims to a fair trial and an effective remedy.[64]

28. While noting the establishment of some inquiries into allegations involving the British army in Iraq, including the Iraq Historic Allegations Team, the Committee against Torture remained concerned that the composition and structural independence of the team was further challenged, as it still had close institutional links with the Ministry of Defence.

and that there had been no criminal prosecutions for torture or complicity in torture involving State officials.[47]

29. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended, inter alia, that the United Kingdom raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with acceptable international standards; ensure that children in contact with the law are always dealt with within the juvenile justice system up to the age of 18; and abolish the mandatory imposition of life imprisonment for offences committed by children under the age of 18.[48]

30. The Human Rights Committee recommended that the United Kingdom ensure, as a matter of particular urgency, that independent, impartial, prompt and effective investigations are conducted on conflict-related serious human rights violations in Northern Ireland.[49]

31. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence noted that, while clear about its future vision, the Belfast Agreement (Good Friday Agreement) was largely silent on the issue of how to address the legacy of violations and abuses committed during the Troubles in Northern Ireland.[50] He stated that it was critical to direct attention to instruments that might capture the more "structural" dimension of violations and abuses, so that victims and society received answers on whether the violations were part of a pattern reflecting a policy under the responsibility of institutions with identifiable chains of command.[51]

32. The Special Rapporteur considered that there seemed to be a lack of clarity about the preconditions of reparation, which could not be reduced to mere compensation or provision of a service, but called for an acknowledgement of responsibility.[52]

33. The Special Rapporteur also noted that adjudicating issues concerning disclosure was central to the credibility of truth and justice initiatives and encouraged the Government to work with academic and non-governmental experts to devise an approach that made disclosure practices human rights and constitutionally compliant.[53]

3. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life[54]

34. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders expressed serious concerns about several provisions of the draft investigatory powers bill that could, if adopted in its present form, threaten the rights to freedoms of expression and of association both inside and outside the country. They considered that these provisions included excessively broad definitions and disproportionate procedures to authorize surveillance, including mass surveillance, and data retention without adequate independent oversight and transparency. The bill should be reviewed to ensure its compliance with international human rights law and standards.[55]

35. The Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression stated that the protection of national security secrets must never be used as an excuse to intimidate the press into silence and backing off from its crucial work in the clarification of human rights violations.[56] He emphasized that under no circumstances should journalists, members of the media, or civil society organizations who had access to classified information on an alleged violation of human rights be subjected to intimidation and subsequent punishment.[57]

36. The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention considered that the various forms of deprivation of liberty to which Julian Assange had been subjected constituted a form of arbitrary detention and stated that this should be brought to an end.[58] After considering a request submitted by the United Kingdom for a review of the opinion, the Working Group decided the request was not admissible.[59]

37. On England and Wales, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of peaceful assembly and of association was circumspect about the threshold for imposing certain conditions on public processions and assemblies, as it did not reflect the strict test of necessity and proportionality.[58] He recommended, inter alia, that a positive law on the right to freedom of peaceful assembly be adopted to facilitate and protect such a right and ensure that law enforcement authorities which violate that right are held personally and fully accountable.[59]

38. On Northern Ireland, the Special Rapporteur called on the authorities, inter alia, to ensure that blatant and provocative violations of the determinations of the Northern Ireland Parades Commission are prosecuted and provide political resolution to the issues that still make the enjoyment of freedom of peaceful assembly problematic in Northern Ireland.[60]

39. On Scotland, the Special Rapporteur called on the authorities, inter alia, to amend the Police, Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2006, with a view to reducing the notification period and ensuring that the exercise of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly is not subject to cost-recovery measures.[61]

40. While commending the extension until 2030 of the provision allowing political parties to adopt women-only shortlists of parliamentary candidates, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned at the failure of the State to introduce further temporary special measures to address the underrepresentation of women in decision-making positions in the public and private sectors.[62]

4. Prohibition of all forms of slavery[63]

41. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) welcomed the measures introduced into the Modern Slavery Act 2015, which enhanced protection, following the relevant recommendations made during the second cycle of the universal periodic review.[64] It recommended, inter alia, that the Government ensure that any planned reforms allow victims of trafficking accessing the asylum procedure to undergo a fair process to establish any well-founded fear of persecution, and that it implement a statutory right of appeal in the national referral mechanism (the procedure to formally identify victims of human trafficking and modern slavery).[65]

42. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned at the lack of a comprehensive national framework on trafficking. It urged the United Kingdom to adopt a comprehensive national framework to combat trafficking in women and girls and to identify any weaknesses in the national referral mechanism and ensure that victims of trafficking are properly identified and adequately supported and protected.[66]

5. Right to privacy and family life[67]

43. The Human Rights Committee was concerned that the current legal regime in the United Kingdom allowed for mass interception of communications and lacked sufficient safeguards against arbitrary interference with the right to privacy. It recommended that the Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act 2014 be revised, with a view to ensuring that access to communications data is limited to the extent strictly necessary for prosecution of the most serious crimes and is dependent upon prior judicial authorization.[68]

44. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism stated that current assessments of the threat posed by terrorism in the United Kingdom had changed significantly in profile over the past years and that there should be a debate on the extent to which the public was prepared to tolerate official access to metadata.[69] He urged the British authorities to review their operations to ensure that they comply fully with the obligations of the State under the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms regarding the right to liberty and security and the right to respect for private and family life.[70]

45. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that the United Kingdom raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 years across all devolved administrations, overseas territories and Crown dependencies.[71]

46. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women urged the United Kingdom to criminalize forced marriage.[72]

C. Economic, social and cultural rights

1. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work[73]

47. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that the United Kingdom review its employment policies to address the root causes of unemployment, progressively reduce the use of temporary employment and include in its action plan time-bound goals with a specific focus on groups disproportionately affected by unemployment.[74] While noting the duty of public authorities to report gender inequalities and the implementation of the "Think, Act, Report" initiative, it expressed concern about the significant gender pay gap, particularly in Scotland.[75]

48. The Committee also noted with concern the recent adoption of the Trade Union Act 2016, which introduced procedural requirements that limited the right of workers to undertake industrial action. It recommended that the United Kingdom ensure that all workers enjoy their trade union rights without undue restrictions or interference and the effective implementation of the norms prohibiting the blacklisting of trade union members.[76]

2. Right to an adequate standard of living[77]

49. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned that, despite the increase of the national minimum wage that had come into effect on 1 April 2016, it was not sufficient to ensure a decent standard of living in the United Kingdom and recommended that it was periodically reviewed to ensure that it met that standard.[78]

50. The Committee stated that the level of child poverty remained high and was projected to increase in the future, especially in Northern Ireland. It recommended that the United Kingdom introduce measures to guarantee targeted support to all those living in poverty or at risk of poverty.[79]

51. The Committee was also concerned about the persistent critical situation in terms of the availability, affordability and accessibility of adequate housing in the United Kingdom, in part as a result of cuts in State benefits.[80]

52. The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context recommended, inter alia, that the United Kingdom assess and evaluate the impact of welfare reforms in relation to the right to adequate housing of the most vulnerable individuals and groups; assess whether the overall costs of the implementation of some reforms might outweigh the savings intended, thereby violating the obligation of the State to use the maximum of available resources; and consider alternative avenues to achieve similar objectives without affecting the poorest or most vulnerable.[81]

53. The Special Rapporteur recommended that the United Kingdom put in place targeted measures to increase the supply of housing in the private market for those individuals and households who faced unaffordable alternatives and refrain from establishing mechanisms that could result in indirect discrimination against migrants or Roma in gaining access to adequate housing.[82]

54. The Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent reported that people of African descent experienced disproportionate rates of poverty and stated that policy responses and specific anti-poverty measures should recognize the complex causes of poverty, which included racial discrimination.[83]

3. Right to health[84]

55. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women urged the United Kingdom, inter alia, to strengthen the implementation of programmes and policies aimed at providing effective access to health care for women, pay special attention to the health needs of women with disabilities and provide equal access to reproductive treatment for all women in Northern Ireland, without discrimination.[85] It was of the opinion that the State party should expedite the amendment of the anti-abortion law in Northern Ireland, with a view to decriminalizing abortion, and ensure that legal abortion covers not only cases of threats to the life of a pregnant woman, but also other circumstances, such as threats to her health and in cases of rape, incest and serious malformation of the fetus.[86]

4. Right to education[87]

56. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about the persistence of significant inequalities in educational attainment, especially for children belonging to ethnic, religious or other minorities and children from low-income families, which had the effect of limiting social mobility.[88] It was also concerned that university fees were increasing, which affected equal access to higher education.[89]

57. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned that in Northern Ireland, segregation of schools by religion persisted. It recommended that the United Kingdom actively promote a fully integrated education system and carefully monitor the provision of shared education, with the participation of children, in order to ensure that it facilitates social integration.[90]

58. Regarding the recommendations of the second cycle of the universal periodic review on discrimination in education,[91] UNESCO commended the measures towards more inclusive education but asserted that the State still had efforts to make regarding the financing of education.[92] It recommended, inter alia, that the State pursue its reforms towards effective tertiary education, continue measures towards inclusive education and prioritize free quality education.[93]

D. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women[94]

59. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women stated that women from black and minority ethnic communities were often subjected to entrenched discriminatory practices in the political, social and economic spheres.[95] She also stated that legal and policy responses regarding violence against black and minority ethnic women and girls were limited to some harmful practices, ignoring the harm emanating from other sexist practices that were prevalent in the United Kingdom.[96]

60. The Special Rapporteur stated that domestic violence was the most pervasive form of violence against women in the United Kingdom and that forced and early marriage affected a wide range of communities in the country.[97] She agreed that the Government had developed a number of strategies and action plans to address those issues, both at the national level and in the constituent parts, but asserted that those initiatives had resulted in isolated pockets of good practice and often depended on personal commitment, due largely

to the lack of a consistent and coherent human rights-based approach in the response of the Government.[98]

61. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted with appreciation that since March 2013, the non-statutory definition of domestic abuse had included victims aged 16 and 17.[99] She considered that while there was no general, stand-alone law on violence against women applicable to the United Kingdom as a whole, there were some legal instruments that aimed to address the issue.[100]

62. The Human Rights Committee recommended that the United Kingdom introduce domestic violence protection orders in Northern Ireland and ensure that all cases of domestic violence in all territories and dependencies are thoroughly investigated and perpetrators prosecuted.[101]

63. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women stated that the justice system as a whole was not equipped for or responsive to addressing the specific needs of women and girl survivors of violence, mentioning cuts to legal aid, inadequate police responses, lack of coordination among the various State agencies and low levels of prosecution.[102]

64. The Special Rapporteur noted the need for special measures that recognized that women were disproportionately affected by violence, inequality and discrimination.[103] She was concerned that the current austerity measures were having a disproportionate impact on poverty and unemployment, which were contributory factors to violence against women and girls.[104] She recommended that the Government ensure a holistic approach to the prevention of violence against women and girls.[105]

65. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women reiterated that the State should ensure the full implementation of its legislation on female genital mutilation, including effectively prosecuting perpetrators of that offence.[106]

2. Children[107]

66. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged the United Kingdom to prohibit all corporal punishment in the family and to ensure that it is explicitly prohibited in all schools and educational institutions, and all other institutions and forms of alternative care.[108]

67. The Committee welcomed the measures taken to address child sexual exploitation and abuse, but was concerned about, inter alia, the increasing risk of online child sexual exploitation and abuse and the low rate of prosecution of those acts.[109] It recommended that the United Kingdom develop and implement comprehensive multisectoral strategies on child exploitation and abuse.[110]

3. Persons with disabilities[111]

68. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned that many children with disabilities did not see that their views were given due weight in making personal decisions about their lives. It recommended that the United Kingdom ensure that inclusive education is given priority over the placement of children in specialized institutions and classes and that the rights of children with disabilities are fully respected.[112]

4. Minorities and indigenous peoples[113]

69. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that the United Kingdom develop a comprehensive strategy, in consultation with members of the gypsy, traveller and Roma communities, to ensure a systematic and coherent approach in addressing the challenges that they continued to face, including discrimination in the fields of health, education, housing and employment, and being subject to negative stereotypes and stigmatization in the media.[114]

70. The Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent was concerned about racial disproportionality in all aspects of the administration and functioning of the justice system and recommended that the United Kingdom, inter alia, prevent racial profiling and prevent, investigate and punish all violations of human rights affecting people of African descent committed by State officials.[115] It also stated that affirmative action measures to promote effective equality were required and called on the United Kingdom to do more to empower people of African descent to be represented in political structures such as Parliament.[116]

5. Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons[117]

71. UNHCR continued to express its concerns regarding the detention of asylum seekers, which should be considered only as a measure of last resort, and recommended, inter alia, that the Government ensure that detention is not used for administrative convenience, that measures are taken to avoid detaining asylum seekers during the processing of their asylum claims and that existing alternatives to detention are more accessible.[118] It welcomed the introduction of a 72-hour limit on the detention of pregnant women, but remained concerned that there was still no fixed statutory time limit on detention.[119]

72. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned that the Immigration Act 2016 had removed the entitlement of unaccompanied children in care with an irregular or unresolved immigration status to support on leaving care and that the United Kingdom had adopted the "deport first, appeal later" scheme, which allowed migrants to appeal against the refusal of their stay only from outside the country, including in cases where such deportation might undermine family unity for migrant children. It recommended that the United Kingdom review the Immigration Act 2016 in order to ensure its compatibility with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.[120]

73. The Committee was also concerned that children could be detained in the course of asylum processes and age-disputed children seeking asylum could be detained in adult facilities. It recommended that the United Kingdom conduct age assessments only in cases of serious doubt through multidisciplinary and transparent procedures.[121]

74. UNHCR expressed concern about the lack of provision within the immigration rules for children recognized as refugees in the country to sponsor family members to join them in the United Kingdom and recommended, inter alia, that the Government amend the asylum policy instruction on family reunion to make express provision for family reunion for any unaccompanied asylum-seeking children resettled to the United Kingdom, or recognized as refugees in the country.[122] UNHCR recommended, inter alia, that the Government ensure that the family reunion procedure is sufficiently simplified and that legal aid is made available to those recognized as being in need of international protection in applying for family reunion.[123]

75. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women expressed concern at the situation of migrant domestic workers and emphasized that those whose visas were tied to their employers faced detention as immigration offenders if they did not go back home, unless they were victims of trafficking.[124] She stated that the new visa procedure for overseas domestic workers had raised further concerns, including the fact that it affected the possibility for domestic workers to change employers or renew their visas, even in abusive employment situations.[125]

6. Stateless persons[126]

76. UNHCR recommended that the Government ensure that detention policies specifically identify a detainee's statelessness as a relevant consideration in the assessment

of the lawfulness of a decision to detain, in order to avoid subjecting stateless persons to prolonged and/or repeat unlawful detention.[127]

77. UNHCR also expressed concern that the stateless determination procedure contained a number of restrictions preventing applicants from accessing the procedure and enjoying protection, and highlighted the lack of civil legal aid provision to support applications regarding statelessness.[128] It recommended that the Government, inter alia, ensure that the burden of proof is shared, in that both the applicant and the examiner must cooperate to obtain evidence and to establish the facts; that the ambit of legal aid is widened to include applicants under the stateless determination procedure; that accommodation and/or financial support is provided for those applying under the procedure; and that an appeal mechanism against decisions made under the procedure is available.[129]

E. Specific regions or territories[130]

78. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned that, despite some improvements, there was still legal discrimination against certain children in overseas territories. It recommended that the Government of the United Kingdom further encourage the Governments of the overseas territories to fully abolish discrimination under the law against children who were "non-belongers", including migrant children and children born out of wedlock, and to revise legislation in order to guarantee the right of migrant children to a birth certificate.[131]

79. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination urged the United Kingdom to hold full and meaningful consultations with the Chagossians (Ilois) to facilitate their return to their islands and to provide them with an effective remedy, including compensation.[132]

80. UNHCR recommended, inter alia, that the Government extend territorial application of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol to Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands and any other British Overseas Territories to which those instruments do not currently apply.[133]

Notes

1 Tables containing information on the scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies for the United Kingdom will be available at www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/GBSession27.aspx.
2 For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.1, 110.4-110.5, 110.14-110.28, 110.30-110.31 and 110.47.
3 See CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, para. 46. See also CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 89, and CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 36.
4 See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 69-70. See also CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 89, CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 6, and CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 36.
5 See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 43. See also CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 34.
6 See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 45.
7 See CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, paras. 6-7. See also CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 15.
8 See CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 36.
9 OHCHR, "Donor profiles", in *OHCHR Report 2012*, p. 171, *OHCHR Report 2013*, p. 187, *OHCHR Report 2014*, p. 120, and *OHCHR Report 2015*, p. 117. See also A/67/264, A/69/290 and www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Slavery/UNVTFCFS/Pages/GeneralInfo.aspx.
10 For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.32, 110.36-110.38 and 110.46.
11 See CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, paras. 9-10.
12 See CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 8.
13 See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16593&LangID=E.

[14] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16074&LangID=E.
[15] See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 9-10. See also CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, paras. 9-10.
[16] Ibid. and CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 7.
[17] See CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, paras. 7-8.
[18] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 15-16. See also UNICEF submission for the universal periodic review of the United Kingdom, p. 3.
[19] See CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 7.
[20] See CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 14.
[21] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.53, 110.59-110.60, 110.66, 110.90-110.91 and 110.102.
[22] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=E.
[23] See A/HRC/24/52/Add.1, para. 108.
[24] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15885&LangID=E.
[25] See CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 19.
[26] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 21-22.
[27] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20241&LangID=E.
[28] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21132&LangID=E.
[29] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.58, 110.118-110.121 and 110.124.
[30] See CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 14.
[31] Ibid.
[32] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=19857&LangID=E.
[33] See A/HRC/23/39/Add.1, para. 85. See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=19854&LangID=E.
[34] See CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, paras. 18-19.
[35] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=19857&LangID=E.
[36] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 22.
[37] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.67-110.68, 110.77, 110.83-110.84, 110.86-110.87 and 110.94-110.96.
[38] See CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 10.
[39] Ibid., para. 19.
[40] See newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14138&LangID=E.
[41] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=E.
[42] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=E.
[43] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.82.
[44] See CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 22.
[45] See CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 16.
[46] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 42-43 and 78-79. See also CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 23.
[47] See CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 8. See also CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 24.
[48] See A/HRC/34/62/Add.1, para. 109.
[49] Ibid., para. 111. See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16780&LangID=E.
[50] See A/HRC/34/62/Add.1, para. 109.
[51] Ibid., para. 128.
[52] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.48.
[53] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16938&LangID=E. See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=19854&LangID=E.
[54] See newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13678&LangID=E.
[55] See newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13678&LangID=E.
[56] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=17013&LangID=E. See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=17042&LangID=E.
[57] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20961&LangID=E.
[58] See A/HRC/23/39/Add.1, para. 12.
[59] Ibid., para. 93. See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=19854&LangID=E.
[60] See A/HRC/23/39/Add.1, para. 96.
[61] Ibid., para. 98.

[62] See CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, paras. 30-31. See also E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 26-27, and CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 12.
[63] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.72-110.76 and 110.109.
[64] UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of the United Kingdom, p. 3. For the full text of the recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.72 (Spain) and 110.73 (Colombia).
[65] UNHCR submission, p. 10.
[66] See CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, paras. 38-39.
[67] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.98.
[68] See CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 24.
[69] See newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13678&LangID=E.
[70] See newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13678&LangID=E.
[71] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 20.
[72] See CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 34.
[73] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.62-110.65.
[74] See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 29-32. See also A/HRC/24/52/Add.1, para. 19.
[75] See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 26-27. See also CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, paras. 46-47.
[76] See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 38-39.
[77] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.41-110.42, 110.44, 110.101 and 110.103-110.104.
[78] See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 36-37.
[79] Ibid., paras. 47-48. See also A/HRC/24/52/Add.1, para 95.
[80] See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 49-50.
[81] See A/HRC/25/54/Add.2, para. 80. See also newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13706&LangID=E and E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 49-50.
[82] See A/HRC/25/54/Add.2, para. 80. See also newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13706&LangID=E.
[83] See A/HRC/24/52/Add.1, paras. 28 and 94-95.
[84] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.103.
[85] See CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, paras. 52-53.
[86] Ibid., paras. 50-51.
[87] For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.66, 110.102 and 110.106.
[88] See E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paras. 63-64.
[89] Ibid., paras. 65-66.
[90] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 72-73. See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16780&LangID=E.
[91] See A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.66 (Morocco), 110.102 (Spain), 110.103 (Cuba) and 110.106 (Costa Rica).
[92] UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of the United Kingdom, p. 16.
[93] Ibid.
[94] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.29, 110.69-110.70, 110.77, 110.88 and 110.99.
[95] See A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, para. 93. See also CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 13.
[96] See A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, para. 68.
[97] Ibid., para. 9. See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=E and CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 42-43.
[98] See A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, paras. 104-105.
[99] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14519&LangID=E.
[100] See A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, paras. 60, 74 and 80.
[101] CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 13. See also A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, para. 107, and CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, paras. 34-35.
[102] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=E. See also A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, paras. 49, 51, 95 and 102-103.
[103] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=E. See also A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, para. 106.

[104] See www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=E. See also A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, paras. 54 and 106, and www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14519&LangID=E.
[105] See A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, para. 107.
[106] See CEDAW/C/GBR/CO/7, paras. 36-37.
[107] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.4, 110.8, 110.41, 110.78-110.80, 110.94-110.95, 110.101 and 110.106.
[108] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 41 (a) and (b). See also www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14514&LangID=EO/5, CCPR/C/GBR/CO/7, para. 20, and CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 29.
[109] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 42-45.
[110] Ibid., paras. 44-45.
[111] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.30.
[112] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 56-57.
[113] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.56 and 110.59-110.61.
[114] See CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, paras. 24-25.
[115] See A/HRC/24/52/Add.1, paras. 98 and 100-104. See also CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, paras. 22- 23, and newsarchive.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12645&LangID=E#sthash.UmjVx9vU.dpuf.
[116] See A/HRC/24/52/Add.1, paras. 85, 90-92 and 97.
[117] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.108 and 110.10-110.115.
[118] UNHCR submission, pp. 3 and 5.
[119] Ibid., p. 4.
[120] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 76-77.
[121] Ibid.
[122] UNHCR submission, pp. 6-8.
[123] Ibid., p. 8.
[124] See A/HRC/29/27/Add.2, paras. 42 and 94.
[125] Ibid., para. 44.
[126] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.82 and 110.111-110.115.
[127] UNHCR submission, p. 6.
[128] Ibid., p. 10.
[129] Ibid., p. 11.
[130] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.45.
[131] See CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 24-25 and 34.
[132] See CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23, paras. 40-41.
[133] UNHCR submission, p. 6.

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Summary of other stakeholders' submissions United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 56 stakeholders' submissions[1] to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. Where appropriate, a separate section is provided for contributions by the national human rights institution of the State under review that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles

2. Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) recommended that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ratifies and incorporates all human rights treaties without reservation, including individual communications procedures.[2] Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) recommended that the State and devolved governments enhance the status of ratified human rights conventions in domestic law.[3]

3. Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (NIHRC) was concerned at the Northern Ireland Executive's lack of engagement with treaty bodies on a number of occasions.[4]

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

4. SHRC reported there were a number of outstanding judgements of the European Court of Human rights (ECtHR) with unacceptable delays in implementation.[5]

5. EHRC recommended the establishment of a State national action plan on human rights, including concrete actions to implement United Nations recommendations[6], and NIHRC recommended that this plan focuses on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.[7]

6. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendation 110.32[8], SHRC stated any reduction in the current legal protections of human rights would potentially undermine the Government's accountability for human rights.[9] SHRC recommended that the State retains the Human Rights Act 1998.[10]

7. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendations on non-discrimination[11], NIHRC recommended that the current equality provisions be simplified, harmonised and strengthened.[12] EHRC recommended that the State and devolved governments work together to adopt a Great Britain-wide Gypsy, Traveller and Roma integration strategy.[13]

8. EHRC indicated that race remained the most commonly recorded motivation for hate crime, and that following the EU Referendum, there was a 57% increase in online reports of hate crime in England and Wales.[14]

9. EHRC recommended that the Government ensures the new privacy and surveillance framework improves protection of privacy rights through clearly defined and limited powers and improved oversight and accountability measures.[15]

10. SHRC expressed concern about detained prison population while awaiting trial and overcrowding in prisons.[16]

11. EHRC highlighted the narrowing of the scope of civil legal aid in England and Wales, and stated changes in court fees in England and Wales and tribunal fees in Great Britain could negatively affect access to justice.[17]

12. Regarding transitional justice, NIHRC recommended that impartial, prompt and effective investigations be conducted into all conflict related deaths in Northern Ireland with a view to identifying, prosecuting and punishing perpetrators of human rights violations and abuses.[18]

13. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendations on combatting trafficking[19], SHRC stated that despite legislative and policy measures to address trafficking of human beings, very few suspected traffickers had been prosecuted.[20]

14. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendations on tackling poverty and reducing inequality[21], SHRC stated that the impact of austerity measures in the form of cuts and changes to eligibility criteria for social security payments had disproportionately impacted vulnerable groups.[22] SHRC also highlighted that inequalities persisted in the extent to which people could enjoy equal access to work and fair conditions of work.[23]

15. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendation on lifting reservations to treaties[24], NIHRC expressed concern that the continuing reservations to International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights meant that the rights contained in it continued to be regarded as largely non-justiciable.[25]

16. EHRC considered violence against women and girls to be one of the most pervasive human rights issues in the country and recommended that the Government ratify the Istanbul Convention.[26]

17. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendations on gender equality[27] SHRC underscored that there was significant gender segregation in relation to employment in Scotland, and mentioned barriers to private and political participation of women.[28]

18. Regarding a 2012-UPR recommendation on child poverty[29] EHRC recommended that the State establishes clear accountability mechanisms for eradicating it.[30]

19. Regarding relevant 2012-UPR recommendations[31] NICCY considered that the State and the devolved governments should immediately prohibit all corporal punishment in the family and in all other institutions and forms of alternative care.[32]

20. NIHRC and SHRC recommended increasing the age of criminal responsibility.[33]

21. EHRC recommended that the State remove its interpretative declaration to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, as children under 18 should not take direct part in hostilities in any circumstances.[34]

22. EHRC recommended that the Government use immigration detention as a last resort, cease detention of vulnerable persons, including children, and set a statutory time limit of 28 days for immigration detention.[35]

III. Information provided by other stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations[36] and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies[37]

23. Center for Global Nonkilling (CGNK) deplored that supported 2012-UPR recommendations for the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance had not been implemented.[38]

24. United Nations Association – UK (UNA-UK) reported the little progress on 2012 UPR recommendation to ratify International Convention on the protection of the Rights of All migrant Workers and Members of their Families, as part of a general reluctance to subscribe to multilateral obligations on migrants.[39]

25. Joint Statement 11 (JS10) reported the State had only ratified two optional protocols enabling individual petitions and reservations remained, therefore not fully meeting a number of 2012-UPR recommendations.[40]

26. JS13 recommended that the State ratifies and implements ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers.[41]

27. Council of Europe (CoE) reported that the CoE-Commissioner for Human Rights had warned about the possible negative consequences for the State's interests, international reputation and influence on human rights related matters in case the country withdrew from the European Convention on Human Rights.[42] Friends of the Earth (FOE) indicated that the 2012-UPR recommendation to comply with the rulings of the ECtHR[43] was under threat, as the Government's 2015 election manifesto included a commitment to 'curtail' the role of this Court.[44]

28. JS 9 asserted that the State's reaction to the Working Group on Arbitrary detentions on the case of Mr. Julian Assange raised serious concern about its commitment to the international rule of law, and its refusal to comply with the decision of the Working Group and disrespectful statements undermined respect for UN human rights mechanisms.[45]

29. JS1 reported on consistent failures in the State's approach to reporting on human rights, particularly with regard to devolved regions, and recommended ensuring that all regions, particularly the devolved governments, participate fully in human rights monitoring mechanisms.[46]

B. National human rights framework[47]

30. FOE stated 2012-UPR accepted recommendation on ensuring integration of human rights principles in domestic laws[48] was under threat, as the Government's stated intention to replace the Human Rights Act with a British Bill of Rights was liable to erode human rights.[49] JS1, JS11 and UNICEF-UK considered this recommendation was at risk[50], and JS10 expressed concern that vulnerable groups would be left without protection if the Human Rights Act was repealed or weakened.[51] NICCY stated any new British Bill of Rights should build upon, rather than reduce, the protection of the rights of children and provide effective judicial remedies.[52]

31. Age-UK underscored that any future human rights legislation should not undermine the effectiveness or scope of the Human Rights Act or the potential for enforcing it.[53]

32. René Cassin-UK (RC-UK) believed that proposed changes to repeal the Human Rights Act undermined the country's international moral authority and weakened its commitments to international obligations.[54] JS11 recommended that the State retain this Act.[55]

33. JS9 highlighted the importance of ratifying UN individual complaint mechanisms to address the void which would be created by *Brexit*.[56] JS3 recommended ensuring that the realisation of rights enjoyed through various European Union instruments will not be negatively impacted.[57]

34. JS3 recommended that the State expedite the enactment of a strong and inclusive Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland which is based on international human rights standards without delay.[58]

35. UNA-UK recommended that the State ensures that the provisions of all ratified human rights instruments are incorporated into domestic law, and that it retains human rights as a priority in its foreign policy.[59]

36. JS3 expressed disappointment about the lack of plans to establish a national human rights action plan to coordinate the implementation of international human rights standards[60], and JS1 recommended ensuring mainstreaming of human rights in government budgets and programmes, including in the devolved administrations.[61] The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland (CYPCS) reported insufficient government engagement and accountability on the promotion and delivery of the 2012-UPR recommendations.[62] CYPCS recommended the establishment of an institutional framework at a United Kingdom and Scottish level to oversee the delivery of a national action plan on monitoring the implementation of the UPR recommendations.[63]

37. JS3 recommended ensuring that all regions of the State, particularly the devolved governments, consult fully with civil society in preparation for the UPR and other UN mechanisms.[64]

38. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendations on the independence of the national human rights institutions[65], JS10 asserted that the independence of the Equality and Human Rights Commission was at risk, as further cuts to its staff were reported.[66] JS11 stated that, whilst the powers of the Children's Commissioner for Scotland had been extended to cover investigations concerning individual children, concerns remained over funding.[67] Regarding 2012-UPR recommendation 110.36[68], Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) referred to Children's Commissioners in England, Wales and Northern Ireland being sponsored by government departments rather than being directly accountable to the legislatures.[69]

39. Regarding relevant 2012-UPR recommendations[70], NICCY indicated that the State and devolved governments should fully incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Protocols into their legislation.[71]

40. Referring to relevant 2012-UPR recommendations[72], AI reported that the State continued to take a narrow view of the extraterritorial application of international and regional human rights treaties, thereby undermining human rights protection.[73]

C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Cross cutting issues

Equality and non-discrimination[74]

41. JS11 stated that little progress was made on 2012-UPR recommendation to eliminate discrimination[75], underscoring minority ethnic people were over-represented in the criminal justice system.[76]

42. JS10 reported that 2012-UPR recommendations on measures to combat prejudices, address hate crimes and xenophobia were not fully met[77], as race was the most commonly recorded motivation for hate crime in England and Wales, and recent data showed a post-*Brexit* 42% increase in hate crime.[78] CoE reported that in 2012 the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance recommended inter alia, that authorities consider how to best ensure that legal aid was available in discrimination cases before employment tribunals.[79]

43. Rene Cassin-UK (RC-UK) urged the Government to prioritise addressing inequalities experienced by ethnic minority communities when considering new policies in combating discrimination.[80]

44. JS1 underscored the impact of the lack of suitable accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma, particularly on education and health, and expressed the State was not doing enough to follow related 2012-UPR recommendations.[81]

45. The young transgender centre of excellence (YTCE) referred to discrimination experienced by transgender people as a result of their gender identity, and recommended inter alia, that staff of public bodies receive relevant mandatory training.[82] JS14 called for a new approach to social security in order to protect and support people living with HIV in Scotland.[83]

46. British Humanist Association (BHA) stated that in Northern Ireland, same-sex marriages were not legal[84], and AI recommended that the Government end discrimination against these couples.[85]

47. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendation on discrimination in education[86], National Secular Society (NSS) recommended, inter alia that the State eliminate religious selection in admissions procedures to publicly-funded schools.[87]

48. Age-UK recommended, inter alia, that an immediate and significant injection of funding into social care be carried out in order to safeguard older people's human rights.[88]

Right to development[89]

49. JS15 considered that the State had met its recommendation to continue its financial commitment to international development.[90] JS15 expressed concern, however about the State using overseas development assistance to support the growth of private education in

recipient countries, as it could undermine the right to education by, inter alia, increasing segregation and discrimination.[91]

Environmental issues[92]

50. Friends of the Earth-FOE claimed immediate steps to address climate change, and recommended that the Government enact legislation to ensure accountability for human rights abuses and environmental damage resulting from global operations of United Kingdom companies.[93]

51. FOE recommended that the Government take immediate effective action to reduce air pollution and addresses underlying socio-economic and racial inequalities.[94]

Human rights and counter-terrorism[95]

52. AI pointed out that the State maintained counter-terrorism legislation and policy that failed to comply with the highest human rights standards.[96] JS11 indicated that no progress had been made regarding 2012-UPR recommendations on protecting human rights while combating terrorism.[97]

53. JS16 asserted that proposed surveillance legislation failed to comply with international standards and called the State to uphold the commitments made during the last UPR.[98]

54. JS10 stated there were concerns about the Government's Investigatory Powers Bill, which would expand the data-gathering powers of security services, police and public bodies.[99] JS16 reported this Bill remained vague and did not establish that surveillance powers should be independently authorised, for example, by a judge.[100]

55. JS16 recommended, inter alia, that the Government uphold commitments made during the last UPR session[101] halting the process of the Investigatory Powers Bill, and desisting from bulk surveillance and bulk communications interference, which are inherently disproportionate with human rights to privacy and freedom of expression.[102]

56. JS16 stated that the Counter Extremism and Safeguarding Bill would introduce new powers that could pose serious challenges to freedom of expression in particular for persons belonging to minority religions or those with dissenting views.[103]

57. AI recommended that the State ensures all current and future counter-terrorism measures are fully compatible with international human rights law and standards.[104] Right Watch-UK (RW-UK) recommended that any measures introduced to counter extremism be subject to public consultation.[105]

2. Civil and Political Rights

Right to life, liberty and security of the person[106]

58. CGNK commended the State's support towards abolishing the death penalty worldwide and encouraged it to enhance the respect for the right to life in its constitution and to progressively and duly limit arms transfer.[107]

59. The Howard League (THL) asserted that the number of people serving indeterminate sentences had increased.[108] Child Rights International Network (CRIN) recommended that the State enact and enforce legislation prohibiting all forms of life imprisonment for any offence committed while under the age of 18.[109] THL stated that England and Whales were one of the few jurisdictions in Europe to sentence children to life sentences.[110]

60. JS10 believed that recommendations 110.94 and 110.96 were partially met, as the overall number of children in custody had reduced but that the use of restraint had doubled

over last five years.[111] THL reported about ongoing degrading treatment of children in penal detention and pointed out that opportunities for children to challenge this treatment and seek redress had been severely curtailed since legal aid cuts in 2013.[112]

61. JS10 referred to concerns such as prison overcrowding in England and Wales, serious assaults, deaths in prisons and segregation.[113] The Committee for the Prevention of Torture of the Council of Europe referred to prison overcrowding in Scotland, and recommended promoting alternatives to imprisonment.[114] JS9 referred to concerns about England and Wales' average length of pre-trial detention.[115]

62. ACAT-UK recommended that the State carry out an independent investigation into allegations of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by British soldiers abroad and prosecute and condemn the authors of such acts.[116]

63. Regarding a specific 2012-UPR recommendation[117], RW-UK indicated that the Government established an inquiry on arbitrary detention regarding the State's implication in a program of secret detention, which had fallen far short of satisfying the Government's human rights obligations of holding an independent and effective inquiry.[118]

64. RW-UK asserted that the Investigatory Powers Tribunal lacked a number of due process and procedural guarantees, and the Parliamentary body tasked with overseeing the conduct of security agencies was heavily controlled by the Executive.[119] It recommended that the State take action to improve the independence and transparency of current national security oversight mechanisms.[120]

65. On 2012-UPR recommendation 110.77[121], BHA asserted that abortion was criminalised across the State,[122] while AI considered no progress was met on this recommendation, calling the Government to ensure that the law on access to abortion in Northern Ireland fully complies with international human rights law by decriminalizing abortion and ensuring access to abortion in cases of severe and fatal foetal anomalies and where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.[123]

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law[124]

66. AI stated that the expansion of "closed material procedures" to ordinary civil courts was contrary to the State's commitment during its previous review to ensure secret evidence was limited only to cases of immediate threat to public security.[125] AI recommended that the State repeals this expansion and ensures that material pertaining to human rights violations is disclosed where relevant to proceedings.[126]

67. Law Society of England and Wales asserted that a combination of legal aid cuts and exponential increases in court fees had served to increase the hurdles faced by citizens trying to defend their legal rights[127], and JS1 underscored its impact on the most disadvantaged groups.[128]

68. FOE asserted that litigation to protect environment was very expensive, and recommended that the Government remove procedural and cost barriers for claimants to ensure equal access to justice.[129]

69. AI expressed concern that there had not yet been any concrete movement to create a human rights compliant mechanism for investigating and remedying past human rights violations and abuses that occurred during decades of political violence in Northern Ireland.[130]

70. AI recommended that United Kingdom immediately transfers the inquiry into allegations of the State's involvement in abuse of detainees held overseas, from the Parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee to an independent judicial body.[131]

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political[132]

71. Campaign for Freedom of Information in Scotland (CFOIS) stated that the right to access information had become progressively weakened with a negative impact on transparency and accountability.[133]

72. Reporters Without Borders (RSF-RWB) expressed concern about the Investigatory Powers Bill, intended to replace the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act, as it would allow the police and intelligence agencies to intercept, gather and store communications without giving prior notice.[134] RWUK recommended that the State introduce safeguards to protect the confidentiality of journalistic material, and freedom of speech.[135]

73. JS16 recommended that the State ensures the continuing editorial independence and autonomy of the public service broadcasters under the new BBC Charter.[136] JS16 recommended that the State bring criminal communications legislation which remained vague into line with human rights standards, by limiting their scope and addressing their lack of clarity.[137]

74. FOE indicated that Peaceful environmental protestors had been criminalised in particular through the use of public order offences and recommended ensuring civil society's right to expression and association, including by reviewing policing of environmental protests.[138] JS16 stated that the practice of monitoring and logging protesters' conduct stigmatised them and chilled the exercise of assembly and expression rights.[139]

75. JS16 assured that the Lobbying Act restricted freedom to participate in political affairs[140], while JS10 stated it made harder for organizations to achieve their charitable objectives.[141] JS10 criticized the Government proposals to introduce an 'anti-advocacy clause'[142] and FOE reported that if implemented, this clause would prevent charities and others receiving public money from lobbying Government and Parliament.[143] FOE recommended that the Government hold an independent review of the politicisation of the Charity Commission.[144]

76. JS10 considered recommendation 110.48 on complying with rulings of the ECtHR had not been met, as judgments on prisoner voting rights remained outstanding.[145]

Prohibition of all forms of slavery[146]

77. JS13 reported legislative improvements including the establishment of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and the creation of an Anti-Slavery Commissioner, while noting persisting obstacles to protect victims, including the low levels of prosecutions and convictions.[147]

78. JS10 reported that recommendations on trafficking[148] were partially met, but remained at risk, as victims faced difficulty in accessing medical, counseling and legal services.[149] JS13 underscored that migrant domestic workers continued to suffer situations amounting to trafficking and forced labour.[150] JS13 considered that despite the State support to 2012-UPR recommendation on retaining overseas domestic worker visa to safeguard migrant workers from abuses[151], this had not been implemented.[152]

Right to privacy and family life[153]

79. Access Now (AN) asserted that *a priori* data retention requirements enforced by the State infringed upon individual privacy, and chilled the exercise of human rights.[154]

80. European Union Agency for Human Rights (EUFRA) indicated that after the High Court of Justice decided on the incompatibility of the Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act 2014 with the right to private life and protection of personal data, the British

government responded by publishing a draft bill which included the requirement of judicial authorisation for warrants.[155]

81. EUFRA indicated that courts were inaccessible in practice for individuals to obtain adequate redress for unlawful surveillance.[156]

3. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work [157]

82. Scottish Trades Union Centre (STUC) asserted that the pursuit of policies that deregulated the labour market further would ultimately lead to an increase in exploitative contracts and a reduction in the prevalence of decent work.[158]

83. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendations 110.62-110.65[159], Nourish Scotland (NS) underscored that there was a significant gender pay gap, and that the reform of social security had had a disproportionate impact on women, children, and disabled people.[160] JS10 considered these recommendations had not been fully met, highlighting that job segregation and pregnancy-related discrimination also occurred.[161]

84. JS10 expressed serious concern that the Trade Union Act 2016 set statutory thresholds and substantial new legal hurdles[162] and JS16 stated it restricted strike activity and industrial action, undermining freedom of expression and association.[163]

Right to social security[164]

85. JS12 stated the welfare reform had aimed not only to cutting public expenditure but also reducing welfare dependency and incentivising work by freezing and capping social security benefits.[165] NS stated that at the same time as the reforms had dramatically cut and limited eligibility to social security, the Government had reduced the tax burden of the wealthiest earners and businesses.[166]

Right to an adequate standard of living[167]

86. NS considered that financial accessibility to food was the area in which the State had most regressed since the 2012-UPR cycle.[168] On relevant 2012-UPR recommendations,[169] Nourish Scotland (NS) stated that in the absence of a strategic plan for the progression of the right to food, action was disparate and incoherent.[170] JS14 indicated that the State Government was failing to be proactive in eliminating food insecurity.[171]

87. JS10 affirmed that because recent policy and legislative changes had seen a regression in the welfare system's ability to tackle poverty, with a negative impact on vulnerable social groups, four related 2012-UPR recommendations had not been fully met and remained at risk.[172] JS14 highlighted that despite support to these recommendations, the Government had proceeded to continue making wide-ranging reforms to the welfare system.[173] STUC referred to the growth of insecure work, the punitive and degrading nature of the benefit system, wider cuts to public services and increasing housing costs.[174]

88. The Traveller Movement (TTM) reported that despite acceptance of 1012-UPR recommendation on adequate housing and health[175], the lack of sites for gypsies, travellers and Roma had forced them into bricks and mortar accommodation.[176]

89. JS12 recommended that the United Kingdom Government addresses the issue of homelessness in Northern Ireland by, inter alia, ensuring there were fewer barriers to accessing healthcare, social services, employment and education.[177]

Right to health[178]

90. Regarding 2012-UPR recommendation on inter alia, guaranteeing the right to health[179], JS14 called on the Scottish Government o ensure that people living with and at risk of HIV could enjoy their rights on an equal basis with others.[180] JS14 expressed concern that there remained no compulsory requirenent for a programme of sex education in Scotland.[181]

91. CGNK encouraged the State to do more abortion prevention and suicide prevention.[182]

92. JS7 recommended stopping the use of excessive force against people within mental health services.[183] Alzheimer Scotland (AS) recommended that the Government ensure that people with dementia and theirs carers can meanngfully participate in the decisions that affect them.[184] Release underscored the negative impact of drug policies that criminalized people who used drugs.[185]

4 Rights of specific persons or groups

Women[186]

93. JS10 reported that a number of recommendations on violence against women[187] had not been met, and others were at risk of not being met[188], underscoring the lack of sufficient resources for support services.[189] Refugee Rights Data Project (RRDP) considered that the Government had only partially implemented 2012-UPR recommendation 110.29, as the State had signed but not ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Woman and Domestic Violence.[190] EUFRA reported that the State had introduced reforms aimed at extending definitions of sexual violence to include all forms of non-consensual sexual acts.[191]

94. JS10 mentioned legislative developments on forced marriage and female genital mutilation, expressing concerns that the criminalization route could prevent women from reporting harm.[192] Regarding 2012-UPR recommendation 110.69,[193] NSS expressed serious concern at the State's failure to successfully prosecute a single case of female genital mutilation.[194]

Children[195]

95. JS11 asserted that despite strong 2012-UPR recommendations[196], 3.9 million children were living in poverty in the country in 2014-2015 and recommended that the State and devolved governments make the elimination of child poverty a national priority.[197]

96. JS11 recommended that the Government expedite bringing domestic legislation in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child at both national and devolved level to ensure its provisions were directly applicable and judiciable.[198] JS11 recommended the United Kingdom Government and devolved governments to each develop a child rights action plan, in consultation with stakeholders.[199]

97. JS11 welcomed developments on the recommendation to fully implement this Convention[200] but indicated that the day to day responsibility for implementing it fell within a small team in the Department for Education, which lacked the necessary capacity and authority.[201]

98. JS10 stated that 2012-UPR recommendations on lowering the age of criminal responsibility remained unmet.[202] JS11 recommended that legislation to increase the mandatory age of criminal responsibility be introduced at the earliest opportunity.[203]

99. JS11 recommended, inter alia, that the State and devolved governments prohibit corporal punishment in the family, considering no progress was made on relevant 2012-UPR recommendations.[204]

100. JS11 recommended that the Declaration on Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict be amended to ensure that child recruits cannot take part in hostilities in any circumstances,[205] indicating that relevant 2012-UPR recommendations were not met[206]. JS11 called on the State Government to raise the minimum age for armed forces recruitment to 18 years.[207]

Persons with disabilities[208]

101. Inclusion London expressed that due to welfare benefit reforms and cuts in social care, disabled people were experiencing a marked regression in their right to an adequate standard of living.[209] It stated that people with disabilities continued to experience attitudinal discrimination and physical and institutional barriers, and that the Equality Act required reasonable adjustments to ensure disabled people were not put at a substantial disadvantage.[210]

Minorities[211]

102. TTM stated that Gypsies, Travellers and Roma people continued to experience some of the highest levels of discrimination and poorest life chances in the country and that 2012-UPR recommendation 110.56 had not been met, as there were widespread and repeated allegations of stop and search powers being used to harass them.[212]

103. National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups (NFGLG) referred to racism involving verbal abuse through violent and even fatal physical attacks.[213] TTM considered that 2012-UPR recommendations 110.59 and 110.60 had not been met, as hate crimes against gypsies, travellers and Roma minorities were not challenged or acknowledged in the same way as crimes against other ethnic communities.[214] NFGLG reported on overly racist statements from local and national politicians[215], and considered a clearer strategy was needed to take action against the media or individuals that incited discrimination and racism against minorities.[216]

104. CoE reported that the Committee of Ministers of the CoE recommended taking measures to ensure savings in public expenditure did not have a disproportionately negative impact on ethnic minorities.[217]

105. NFGLG recommended that all schools improve inter-cultural understanding and overcome negative stereotyping against minorities.[218]

106. TTM recommended, inter alia that the Government redraft the National Roma Inclusion Strategy, in consultation with relevant organisations.[219]

107. On recommendations 110.61 regarding discrimination against caste, JS14 underscored that the "untouchability mindset" persisted, and urged the State Government to take immediate action to outlaw caste discrimination in the Equality Act 2010.[220]

Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [221]

108. TTM explained how the use of hate speech by politicians and media had created a climate in which racism and hate speech was thought acceptable, and reported that following the EU referendum there had been a significant spike in anti-migrant attacks.[222] EUFRA reported that in 2014 the State had not implemented any concrete measure for migrant integration and inclusion targeting the general population.[223]

109. JS10 considered a number of recommendations on the rights of migrants remained unmet and at risk[224] as the State was still the only European country without a time limit on detention.[225] JS10 expressed concern about regressive measures such as the "deport first, appeal later" procedure.[226]

110. JS8 reported domestic law permitted the administrative detention of persons subject to immigration control.[227] JS4 supported recommendations that there should be a time limit of 28 days of immigration detention and that vulnerable people should never be detained.[228] AI recommended the Government to inter alia, introduce periodic, automatic judicial oversight of the continuation of a person's immigration detention.[229] Detention Action-UK recommended that the State develop community-based alternatives to detention.[230]

111. RRDP stated that the State government had not implemented 2012-UPR recommendation on implementing CRC[231], as the best interests of the child were regularly rendered subordinate to immigration concerns.[232] Following up to relevant 2012-UPR recommendations[233], JS11 called the State Government to put an end to detention of asylum seeking and migrant children.[234]

112. RRDP underscored as a positive development the passing into law of the 72-hour time limit on the detention of pregnant women but observed that immigration concerns too often trumped the government's obligation to uphold the rights of refugee women in accordance with its international obligations.[235]

113. JS2 underscored the Government's failure to provide adequate follow-on support for successful asylum-seekers[236] and recommended, inter alia, that asylum support continue until the first mainstream benefits were paid.[237] JS2 recommended, inter alia, that the Government provide a level of statutory support for failed asylum seekers until they either return to their country of origin or receive leave to remain in the country.[238]

114. UNICEF-UK stated that 2012-UPR recommendation 1101.115[239] had not been met, recommending accordingly that the Government end the detention of children for immigration purposes, and make appropriate alternatives available.[240]

Stateless[241]

115. Whilst JS8 commended the autonomous procedure for granting stateless persons leave to remain, important shortcomings persisted, including discriminatory treatment of stateless persons, particularly with respect to absence of appeal rights, free legal assistance, and access to a number of economic and social rights.[242] JS8 recommended, inter alia, that the State recognise "statelessness status" as a protection status similar to "refugee status".[243]

E. Specific regions or territories[244]

116. Minority Group International (MRG) recommended, inter alia, that the Government facilitate and support the Chagossioan's right to return to the islands immediately.[245]

Notes

[1] The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org. (One asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with "A" status).

Civil society

Individual submissions:

Acat-UK	Acat-UK;
Accessnow	Access Now;
ADF International	ADF International;

Age UK	Age UK;
AI	Amnesty International, London (United Kingdom Of Great Britain And Northern Ireland);
AS	Alzheimer Scotland: Action On Dementia;
BHA	British Humanist Association;
CFOIS	Campaign For Freedom Of Information In Scotland;
CGNK	Center For Global Nonkilling;
CRER	Coalition For Racial Equality And Rights;
CRIN	Child Rights International Network;
CYPCS	Commissioner For Children And Young People, Scotland (United Kingdom Of Great Britain And Northern Ireland);
DA	Detention Action, UK;
ES-UK	Electrosensitivity UK;
FFF	Four Freedoms Forum;
FOE EWNI	Friends Of The Earth (England, Wales And Northern Ireland (Ewni);
GG	The Good Group;
IL	Inclusion London;
Impetus	Brighton And Hove Impetus;
TM	the traveller movement;
Just Fair	Just Fair;
LSEW	The Law Society Of England And Wales;
MRG	Minority Rights Group International;
NFGLG	National Federation Of Gypsy Liaison Groups;
Niccy	Northern Ireland Commissioner For Children and Young People;
Nourish Scotland	Nourish Scotland;
ODVV	The Organization For Defending Victims Of Violence;
OHR	Oceania Human Rights;
Release	Release;
RCUK	René Cassin, UK;
RRDP	Refugee Rights Data Project;
RSF-RWB	Reporters Without Borders;
RWUK	Rights Watch (UK);
SCID	Scottish Campaign Against Irresponsible Drivers;
STUC	Scottish Trades Union Centre;
The Howard League	The Howard League For Penal Reform;
UNA-UK	United Nations Association – UK;
UNICEF-UK	Unicef- United Kingdom;
WAE	We're All Equal;
YTCE	The Young Transgender Centre Of Excellence.
Joint Submissions:	
JS1	Joint Submission 1 Submitted By: Friends, Families And Travellers, Leeds Gate, Community Law Partnership, London Gypsy And Traveller Unit, Traveller Law Reform Project, Gypsy, Traveller And Roma Media, Churches Network For Gypsies, Travellers And Roma, Irish Community Care, David Watkinson, Barrister (Non-Practising), Door Tenant, Garden Court Chambers;
JS2	Joint Submission 2 Submitted By: United For Change Manchester, Vivat International, Edmund Rice International, Asylum Link Merseyside, Gmiau (Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit), Manchester City Of Sanctuary, North-West Regional Asylum Activism, Rainbow Haven, Revive;
JS3	Joint Submission 3 Submitted By: Human Rights Consortium;
JS4	Joint Submission 4 Submitted By: Campaign To Close Campsfield (Ccc) And Barbed Wire Britain Network To End Refugee And Migrant Detention City (Country);

JS5	Joint Submission 5 Submitted By: Dalit Solidarity Network Uk And International Dalit Solidarity Network;
JS6	Joint Submission 6 Submitted By: Women Enabled International And Sisters Of Frida;
JS7	Joint Submission 7 Submitted By: Coalition Of Recovery Assistance Dogs And Warwick Research;
JS8	Joint Submission 8 Submitted By: Migrants Resource Centre, University Of Liverpool Law Clinic, European Network On Statelessness And Institute On Statelessness And Inclusion;
JS 9	Joint Submission 10 Submitted By: Center For Constitutional Rights, Eva Joly Institute, National Lawyers Guild, International Association Of Democratic Lawyers, Liberty Victoria, Courage Foundation, Centro De Estudios Legales Y Sociales, (Cels), Derechos Humanos En Accion, Australian Lawyers For Human Rights, Australian Lawyers Alliance, Swedish Professors & Doctors For Human Rights (Swedhr), Digital Rights Watch, Sydney Peace Prize Foundation;
JS10	Joint Submission 11 Submitted By: British Institute Of Human Rights;
JS11	Joint Submission 12 Submitted By: Children's Rights Alliance For England, Together (Scottish Alliance For Children's Rights) And The Wales Uncrc Monitoring Group;
JS12	Joint Submission 13 Submitted By: Edmund Rice International, Westcourt Centre, Belfast, Northern Ireland, Council For The Homelessness, Northern Ireland, Revive, Tree Of Life, Wythenshawe;
JS13	Joint Submission 14 Submitted By: Anti-Slavery International And Kalayaan;
JS14	Joint Submission 15 Submitted By: Coalition Of Hiv Ngo's Uk;
JS15	Joint Submission 16 Submitted By: Right To Education Project, Child Rights International Network (Crin), The East African Centre For Human (Eachrights), The Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition, The Global Campaign For Education (Gce), The Global Initiative For Economic, Social And Cultural Rights (Gi-Escr), The Initiative For Social And Economic Rights In Uganda (Iser), The Methare Association, The National Union Of Teachers (Nut), The University And College Union (Ucu);
JS16	Joint Submission 17 Submitted By: Article 19 And English Pen

National Human Rights Institutions:

SHRC	Scottish Human Rights Commission;
EHRC	Equality And Human Rights Commission;
NIHRC	Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission

Regional intergovernmental organization(s):

CoE	The Council Of Europe, Strasbourg (France);
EU FRA	European Union Agency For Fundamental Rights;
CoE-CPT	The Committee for the Prevention of Torture of The Council of Europe

[5] SHRC, pp. 2 and 4. See also: NIHRC, p. 1, CYPCS, p. X, and NICCY, p. 2.
[6] EHRC, p. 3.
[7] NIHRC, p. 2. See also: CYPCS, p. 2.
[8] SHRC, p. 2.
[9] EHRC, p. 2.
[10] NIHRC, p. 1. See also: SHRC, p. 3.
[11] Recommendation 110.32 (Qatar). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[12] SHRC, pp. 2 and 3.
[13] SHRC, p. 4.
[14] Recommendations 110.39 (Uzbekistan), 110.43 (Pakistan), 110.49 (Egypt), 110.50 (Indonesia), 110.51 (Cuba), 110.53(China), 110.56 (Austria), 110.57 (Pakistan), 110.58 (Malaysia), 110.66

(Morocco); 110.90 (Malaysia); 110.91 (United States of America); 110.102 (Spain); and 110.108 (Costa Rica). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.

[57] NHRC, p. 3. See also: SHRC, p. 6.

[58] EHRC, p. 6.

[59] EHRC, p. 7. See also: NHRC, p. 6; SHRC, p. 7.

[60] EHRC, p. 14. See also: NHRC, p. 4.

[61] SHRC, p. 7. See also: EHRC, pp. 14 and15.

[62] EHRC, p. 10.

[63] NHRC, p. 3. See also: AI, pp. 6 and 7; CoE, p. 9 and RWUK, pp. 2 and 3.

[64] Recommendation 110.72 (Spain); Recommendation 110.73 (Colombia); Recommendation 110.74 (Australia); Recommendation 110.75 (United States of America); Recommendation 110.76 (Greece). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.

[65] SHRC, p. 8. See also: NHRC, pp. 5 and 6; NICCY, p. 6; EHRC, p. 11 and JS10, p. 10.

[66] Recommendation 110.101(Viet Nam); Recommendation 110.102 (Spain). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.

[67] SHRC, p. 8 See also: NHRC, p. 5. See also: NICCY, p. 7; NHRC, p. 5 and EHRC, p. 5.

[68] SHRC, p. 8. See also: EHRC, p. 19.

[69] Recommendations 110.4 (Belarus) and 110.101(Viet Nam). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.

[70] NHRC, p. 1.

[71] EHRC, p. 9. See also NHRC, p. 5 and SHRC, p. 4.

[72] Recommendation 110.40 (Indonesia); Recommendation 110.52 (Uzbekistan); Recommendation 110.62 (Sudan); Recommendation 110.63 (India); Recommendation 110.64 (Algeria). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.

[73] SHRC, p. 4. See also: EHRC, p. 13.

[74] Recommendation 110.41 (Norway). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.

[75] EHRC, pp. 5 and 6. See also: CYPCS, pp. 5 and 7.

[76] Recommendation 110.78 (Sweden); Recommendation 110.79 (Norway); Recommendation 110.80 (Finland). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.

[77] NICCY, p. 12. *See also*: SHRC, p. 5; CYPCS, p. 5; and NHRC, p. 4.

[78] NHRC, p. 3 and SHRC, p. 6. See also: CYPCS, p. 5.

[79] NHRC, p. 1.

[80] EHRC, p. 10. See also: SHRC, p. 6; and NHRC, p. 3.

[81] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras 110.1-110.6 and 110.8-110.31.

[82] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras 110.46 and 110.47.

[83] CAJ-UK, p. 3. See also: UNA-UK, p. 2. Recommendations 110.22 (Japan), Recommendation 110.23 (Uruguay), Recommendation 110.24 (Argentina), Recommendation 110.25 (Uruguay), and 110.26 (Spain). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.

[84] UNA-UK, p. 2.

[85] JS10, p. 6. See also: UNA-UK, pp. 2 and 7. Recommendation 110.1 (Comoros); Recommendation 110.2 (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); Recommendation 110.3 (Nicaragua); Recommendation 110.4 (Belarus); Recommendation 110.5 (Slovakia); Recommendation 110.6 (Slovenia); Recommendation 110.8 (Russia Federation); Recommendation 110.9 (Slovakia); Recommendation 110.10 (France); Recommendation 110.11 (Algeria); Recommendation 110.12 (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); Recommendation 110.13 (Greece); Recommendation 110.14 (Chile); Recommendation 110.15 (Ecuador); Recommendation 110.16 (Honduras);Recommendation 110.17 (Morocco); Recommendation 110.18 (Egypt, Guatemala, Sudan); (Uruguay, Iran (Islamic Republic of)); Recommendation 110.19 (Uruguay); Recommendation 110.20 (France); Recommendation 110.21(Iraq); Recommendation 110.22 (Japan); Recommendation 110.23 (Uruguay); Recommendation 110.24 (Argentina); Recommendation 110.25 (Uruguay); Recommendation 110.26 (Spain); Recommendation 110.27 (Uruguay); Recommendation 110.28 (Philippines); Recommendation 110.29 (France); Recommendation 110.30 (New Zealand); Recommendation 110.31(Hungary). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.

[86] JS13, p. 11.

[87] CoE, p. 5. See also: AI, pp. 1 and 7; AGJ-UK, pp. 3 and 4; STUC, p. 3; LSEW, p. 2 and JS9, p. 12.

[88] Recommendation 110.48 (Mexico). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.

[45] FOR, p. 3. See also: FIDH, p. 5.
[46] JS9, p. 6. See also: UNA-UK, pp. 2 and 5.
[47] JS1, p. 5. See also: JS3, p. 8.
[48] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 100.82, 100.86, 100.87, 100.88, and 100.90.
[49] Recommendation 110.32 (Qatar). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[50] FOR, p. 3. See also: UNA-UK, pp. 3 and 4, CoE, p. 3, AI, p. 2 and JS9, p. 12.
[51] JS10, p. 5, JS11, P. 3, and UNICEF-UK, p. 3.
[52] JS10, p. 5. See also: RCUK, pp. 2 and 3 and STUC, p. 3.
[53] NICCY, p. 11. See also: EHRC, p. 2.
[54] Age-UK, p. 3. See also: FOR, p. 4, JS16, p. 10, UNA-UK, p. 7, and CYPCS, pp. 3 and 4.
[55] RCUK, pp. 2 and 3. See also: STUC, p. 3.
[56] JS11, p. 3. See also: JS14, p. 9 and AI, p. 7.
[57] JS9, p. 13. See also: FOR, p. 4.
[58] JS3, p. 6.
[59] JS3, pp. 5 and 6. See also: AI, p. 7.
[60] UNA-UK, pp. 4 and 7.
[61] JS3, p. 5.
[62] JS1, p. 6.
[63] CYPCS, p. 1. For the full text of the 2012 UPR recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.
[64] CYPCS, p. 3. See also: JS9, p.2.
[65] JS3, p. 5.
[66] Recommendation 110.36 (Costa Rica); Recommendation 110.37 (Morocco).
[67] JS10, p. 6. See also: Age-UK, p. 3.
[68] JS11, p. 5.
[69] Recommendation 110.36 (Costa Rica). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.
[70] NICCY, p. 3. See also NIHRC, p. 2.
[71] Recommendation 110.39 (Uzbekistan); Recommendation 110.49 (Egypt); Recommendation 110.50 (Indonesia); Recommendation 110.108 (Costa Rica). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.
[72] NICCY, pp. 5 and 11.
[73] Recommendations 110.2 and 110.33 (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); Recommendation 110.3 (Nicaragua); Recommendation 110.118 (Egypt). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.
[74] AI, p. 3.
[75] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.53, 110.59, 110.60, 110.66, 110.90, 110.91 and 110.102.
[76] Recommendation 110.53 (China). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.
[77] JS11, p. 6. See also: CRER, p. 7.
[78] Recommendation 110.59 (Turkey); Recommendation 110.60 (Turkey) Recommendation 110.90 (Malaysia) and Recommendation 110.91 (United States of America). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.
[79] JS10, P. 17. See also: JS1, pp. 5 and 15, and CRER, p. 5.
[80] CoE, p. 5.
[81] RCUK, p. 4. See also: ELFRA, p. 6, CRER, p. 7 and JS1,p. 5.
[82] JS1, pp. 6, 11, 14and 19. See also CoE, p. 5 and CRER, pp. 4 and 5. Recommendation 110.102 (Spain); and Recommendation 110.117 (Hungary). For the full text of the recommendations see A/HRC/21/9.
[83] YSCP, pp. 1, 3 and 6. See also: JS11, p. 8.
[84] JS14, p. 7.
[85] BHA, p. 8.
[86] AI, p. 7.
[87] Recommendation 110.66 (Morocco). For the full text of the recommendation see A/HRC/21/9.
[88] NSS, pp. 2, 3 and 4. See also: BHA, pp. 1- 4.
[89] Age UK, pp. 4 and 6. See also: JS10, p. 23.
[90] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.131.

[90] Recommendation 110.129 (Ireland and Uruguay). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[91] JS15, pp. 2-4. See also: UNICEF-UK, p. 3.
[92] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.68.
[93] FOE, pp. 2, 8 and 9. See also: UNICEF-UK, p. 4; EIN-UK, p. 9 and Victoria Hatton Rights (OHR), P. 2.
[94] FOE, p. 9.
[95] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.50, 110.110, 110.119, 110.120, 110.121, and 110.126.
[96] AI, p. 4. See also: JS11, pp. 6 and 7.
[97] JS11, pp. 6 and 7. Recommendation 110.98 (Malaysia), Recommendation 110.119 (Japan), Recommendation 110.120 (Norway), Recommendation 110.126(Netherlands). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[98] JS16, p.1 See also: AI, p. 1. Recommendation 110.118 (Egypt), Recommendation 110.119 (Japan), Recommendation 110.120 (Norway). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[99] JS10, p. 16. See also: AI, p. 4.
[100] JS16, pp. 1 and 2.
[101] Recommendation 110.118 (Egypt). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[102] JS16, p. 9. See also: AI, p. 7.
[103] JS16, pp. 3 and 10. See also: AI, p. X; JS11, pp. 6 and 7; and JS10, p. 16.
[104] AI, p. 7.
[105] BWUK, pp. 4 and 5. See also: UNA-UK, p. 5.
[106] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.67, 110.68, 110.77, 110.83, 110.84, 110.86, 110.87, 110.94, 110.95, 110.96.
[107] CGNK, pp. 3, 4 and 7. See also: BWUK, p. 3.
[108] TNE, p. 3.
[109] CRIN, p. 4.
[110] TNE, p. 4.
[111] JS10, p. 11.
[112] TNE, p. 3.
[113] JS10, pp. 19-20. See also: TNE, p. 5.
[114] (Press release, Strasbourg 27. 03. 2014, European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, available at http://www.cpt.coe.int/documents/gbr/2014-03-27-eng.htm).
[115] JS9, p. 14.
[116] ACAT, pp. 3 and 4. See also: EHRC, p. 17.
[117] Recommendation 110.84 (Nicaragua). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[118] BWUK, p. 2.
[119] BWUK, p. 1.
[120] BWUK, p. 1.
[121] AI, p. 7. Recommendation 110.77 (Finland). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[122] BHA, p. 10. See also: WAI, pp. 1 and 2; and ADF International, pp. 3 and 6.
[123] AI, p. 8.
[124] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.82.
[125] AI, p. 5. Recommendation 110.83 (Austria). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[126] AI, p. 7.
[127] LME96, pp. 3 and 7. See also: EUFRA, p. 12; and NCEO, pp. 3-4.
[128] JS10, p. 21.
[129] FOE, p. 7.
[130] AI, pp. 6 and 7. See also: CoE, p. 9; BWUK, pp. 2 and 3.
[131] AI, pp. 5 and 7. See also: UNICEF-UK, p. 4.
[132] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.68.
[133] CFoE6, p. 2. See also: EUFRA, p. 15.
[134] ENF-GNB, pp. 1 and 2.

[135] RWUK, p. 5.
[136] JS16, p. 10.
[137] JS16, p. 5.
[138] FOE, pp. 5 and 6.
[139] JS16, pp. 7-10.
[140] JS16, p. 8.
[141] JS10, p. 6. See also: FOE, p. 5.
[142] JS10, p. 6.
[143] FOE, p. 6.
[144] FOE, p. 6.
[145] JS10, p. 5. See also: AI, p. 7.
[146] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.72, 110.73, 110.74, 110.75, 110.76 and 110.109.
[147] JS13, p. 2. See also: RCUK, p. 5, CoE, p. 7 and RRDP, p. 6.
[148] Recommendation 110.73 (Colombia), Recommendation 110.74 (Australia), Recommendation 110.75 (United States of America), Recommendation 110.76 (Greece). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[149] JS10, pp. 19 and 20. See also: UNICEF-UK, p. 6, JS13, p. 2, RCUK, p. 5 and CoE, p. 7.
[150] JS13, p. 2.
[151] Recommendation 110.109 (Thailand). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[152] JS13, pp. 2 and 10.
[153] For relevant recommendations see, A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.98.
[154] AN, p. 2.
[155] EUFRA, p. 7.
[156] EUFRA, p. 15.
[157] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.62, 110.63, 110.64 and 110.65.
[158] STUC, p. 5.
[159] Recommendation 110.62 (Sudan), Recommendation 110.63 (India), Recommendation 110.64 (Algeria) and Recommendation 110.65 (Ukraine). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[160] NS, p. 3. See also: JS10, p. 8.
[161] JS10, p. 8. See also: EUFRA, p. 5.
[162] JS10, p. 7. See also: STUC, p. 8.
[163] JS16, p. 8.
[164] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.42.
[165] JS12, p. 9.
[166] NS, p. 3.
[167] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.41, 110.42, 110.44, 110.101, 110.103, and 110.104.
[168] NS, p. 2.
[169] Recommendation 110.103 (Cuba), Recommendation 110.104 (Spain), Recommendation 110.32 (Qatar), Recommendation 110.26 (Spain). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[170] NS, p. 2.
[171] JS14, p. 7. See also: JS12, p. 10.
[172] JS10, p. 13. See also: STUC, p. 5. Recommendation 110.41 (Norway), Recommendation 110.44 (Nepal), Recommendation 110.101 (Viet Nam), Recommendation 110.103 (Cuba). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[173] JS14, p. 7.
[174] STUC, p. 5. See also: NS, p. 3 and JS10, p. 14.
[175] Recommendation 110.103 (Cuba). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[176] ITMB, pp. 5 and 7. See also: NFGLG, p. 7 and CRER, p. 5.
[177] JS12, pp. 3 and 5. See also: GG, p. 1.
[178] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.103.
[179] Recommendation 110.103 (Cuba). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[180] CHIVNGOsUK, pp. 6 and 8.
[181] JS14, pp. 5 and 6.

[182] CGNK, p. 5.
[183] JS7, p. 4.
[184] AS, p. 6.
[185] Release, pp. 2 and 6.
[186] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras 110.29, 110.69, 110.70, 110.77, 110.88, and 110.99.
[187] Recommendation 110.69 (Brazil), Recommendation 110.70 (Colombia), Recommendation 110.77 (Finland), Recommendation 110.88 (Thailand), Recommendation 110.99 (Slovenia). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[188] Recommendations 110.51 (Cuba), Recommendation 110.71 (Malaysia), Recommendation 110. 40 (Indonesia). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[189] JS10, p. 8. See also: JS6, pp. 1 and 9.
[190] RRDP, p. 5.
[191] EUFRA, p. 13. See also: EUFRA, p. 8.
[192] JS10, P. 8.
[193] Recommendation 110.69 (Brazil). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[194] NSS, p. 7.
[195] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras 110.4, 110.8, 110.41, 110.78, 110.79, 110.80, 110.94, 110.95, 110.101 and 110.106.
[196] Recommendation 110.41(Norway), Recommendation 110.101 (Viet Nam). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[197] JS11, p. 11.
[198] JS11, P. 3. See also: JS10, p. 8 and UNICEF-UK, p. 2.
[199] JS11, p. 5.
[200] Recommendation 110.10 (France). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[201] JS11, p. 4. See also: EUFRA, p. 18.
[202] JS10, p. 10. See also: JS11, pp. 11 and 12.
[203] JS11, pp. 11 and 12. See also: European Committee on Social Rights, Conclusions XX-4 – Article 17, p. 4, available at: http://hudoc.esc.coe.int/; CRIN, p. 4, and NICCY, p. 13.
[204] JS11, pp. 8 and 9. See also: JS11, p. 10 and European Committee of Social Rights, Conclusions XX-4, United Kingdom, - Article 17, p. 2, available at: http://hudoc.esc.coe.int. Recommendation 110.78 (Sweden), Recommendation 110.79 (Norway), Recommendation 110.80 (Finland). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[205] JS11, p. 2. See also: UNICEF-UK, p. 2.
[206] Recommendation 110.4 (Belarus), Recommendation 110.8 (Russia Federation). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[207] JS11, p. 15.
[208] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.30 and 110.31.
[209] IL, pp. 8 and 10.
[210] IL, pp. 1 and 6. See also: IL, pp. 3 and 5 and BHI, pp. 3, 6, 7 and 11.
[211] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.56, 110.59, 110.60 and 110.6.
[212] ITMB, pp. 1 and 3. See also: NFGLG, p. 2 and RWUK, p. 2.
[213] NFGLG, p. 2.
[214] ITMB, p. 9.
[215] NFGLG, p. 2, See also: ITMB, p. 9.
[216] NFGLG, p. 3.
[217] CoE, p. 6.
[218] NFGLG, p. 6.
[219] ITMB, p. 10. See also: NFGLG, p. 2.
[220] JS14, pp. 2 and 3.
[221] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, paras 110.10, 110.108, 110.111, 110.112, 110.113, 110-114 and 110.115.
[222] ITMB, p.9.
[223] EUFRA, p. 9. See also: JS2, p. 6, and European Committee of Social Rights, Conclusions XX-4, Article 19-6, 2015, available at: http://hudoc.esc.coe.int.

[224] Recommendation 110.108 (Paraguay), Recommendation 110.110 (Viet Nam), Recommendation 110.111 (Chile), Recommendation 110.112 (Honduras), Recommendation 110.113 (Ecuador), Recommendation 110.114 (Mexico), Recommendation 110.115 (Argentina). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[225] JS10, p. 18. See also: JS8, p. 12.
[226] JS10, P. 18.
[227] JS8, p. 5.
[228] JS4, p. 2. See also: DA-UK, p. 5 and RCUK, p. 4.
[229] AI, pp. 6 and 7. See also: JS4, p. 3 and DA-UK pp. 2 and 3.
[230] DA-UK, pp. 5 and 6.
[231] Recommendation 110.10 (France). For the full text of the recommendation see: A/HRC/21/9.
[232] RRDP, p. 3.
[233] Recommendation 110.113 (Ecuador), Recommendation 110.114 (Mexico), Recommendation 110.115 (Argentina). For the full text of the recommendations see: A/HRC/21/9.
[234] JS11, pp. 14 and 15.
[235] RRDP, p. 5. See also: JS10, P. 18.
[236] JS2, p. 6. See also: EUFRA, p. 5.
[237] JS2, p. 6.
[238] JS2, p. 9.
[239] Recommendation 110.115 (Argentina). For the full text of the recommendation see A/HRC/21/9.
[240] UNICEF-UK, p. 5. See also: CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, paras. 76-77.
[241] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.113.
[242] JS8, pp. 5 and 6.
[243] JS8, p. 15.
[244] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/9, para. 110.1.
[245] MRG, p. 6.